



## FAILED BORDER BILL BIG BLOW TO HOUSE GOP LEADERSHIP

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## MONITORS FINALLY REACH MH17 CRASH SITE AFTER DELAYS

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# TODAY

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Friday, August 1, 2014

# Time Out



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry announces a 72-hour humanitarian cease-fire beginning Friday between Israel and Hamas, in New Delhi, India, Friday Aug. 1, 2014. During the 72-hour cease-fire there will be negotiations on a more durable truce in the 24-day-old Gaza war, the United States and United Nations announced.

(AP Photo/Lucas Jackson, Pool)

## US, UN Announce Deal On Gaza Cease-Fire

LARA JAKES

AP National Security Writer

NEW DELHI (AP) — Israel and Hamas have agreed to a humanitarian cease-

fire in Gaza to start Friday morning for 72 hours, although Secretary of State John Kerry cautioned that the lull in violence did not

guarantee an end to the conflict.

"This is not a time for congratulations or joy or anything except a serious de-

termination — a focus by everybody to try to figure out the road ahead," Kerry said in New Delhi, where he was meeting with Indian of-

ficials. "This is a respite. It is a moment of opportunity, not an end."

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## US, UN announce deal on Gaza cease-fire

**Continued from Front**

The U.S. and the United Nations announced the cease-fire in a joint statement.

Israeli and Palestinian delegations were expected to travel immediately to Cairo for talks with the Egyptian government aimed at reaching an end to the conflict, now more than three weeks old.

"It is up to the parties — all of them — to take advantage of this moment," Kerry said. "There are no guarantees. This is a difficult,

ditional cease-fire during which there would be negotiations on a more durable truce.

"Israel has to live without terror and tunnels and rockets and sirens going on through the day," Kerry said. "Palestinians have to be able to live freely and share in the rest of the world and live a life that is different from the one they have long suffered."

The Palestinian delegation is expected to include members of Hamas, which the United States and Israel consider a terrorist organization and cannot be ne-

well as Robert Serry, who is in Jerusalem, talking to his counterparts."

U.S. Mideast envoy Frank Lowenstein and others were expected to go to Egypt for the Egyptian-mediated talks in Cairo.

The U.N. humanitarian chief called Thursday for daily "humanitarian pauses" until a long-term cease-fire is reached between Israel and Hamas in order to deliver relief to hundreds of thousands in need in Gaza, rescue the injured and give civilians a reprieve from the war.

The call by Valerie Amos



**A flare illuminates the sky over Gaza City, northern Gaza Strip, as in the distance, a tank shell trail, middle right, is seen on Thursday, July 31, 2014. Israel and Hamas have agreed to a humanitarian cease-fire in Gaza to start Friday morning for 72 hours, although Secretary of State John Kerry cautioned that the lull in violence did not guarantee an end to the conflict.**

(AP Photo/Leffteris Pitarakis)

complicated issue."

During the cease-fire, Kerry said Israel will be able to continue its defense operations to destroy tunnels that are behind its territorial lines. The Palestinians will be able to receive food, medicine and humanitarian assistance, bury their dead, treat the wounded and travel to their homes. The time also will be used to make repairs to water and energy systems.

"We hope this moment can be grabbed by both parties, but no one can force them to do that," Kerry said.

The joint statement said the U.S. and U.N. had gotten assurances that all parties to the conflict in Gaza had agreed to an uncon-

gotiated with directly. So if the Israelis and Palestinians meet face to face, the Hamas members will not participate in those talks.

The Egyptians will be the go-between for all of this and will help coordinate, a senior State Department official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the official wasn't allowed to discuss the issue publicly by name.

U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said the cease-fire announcement was the result of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's trip recent trip to the region "but also 48 hours of extremely active diplomacy at all levels from the secretary-general to his senior advisers talking to key regional players as

came hours before the United Nations and the U.S. announced a 72-hour humanitarian cease-fire to start Friday morning in Gaza.

The U.N. Security Council heard briefings from Amos and Pierre Krahenbuhl, head of the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees, who warned that the population of Gaza "is facing a precipice."

Amos said the world has watched in horror as children and civilians have come under attack in Gaza. Over 80 percent of the more than 1,300 Palestinians killed have been civilians, including 251 children, she said by video-conference from Trinidad and Tobago. □

## US warns against traveling to any Ebola-hit countries

**MIKE STOBBE**

**AP Medical Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — U.S. health officials on Thursday warned Americans not to travel to the three West African countries hit by the worst recorded Ebola outbreak in history.

The travel advisory applies to nonessential travel to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, where the deadly disease has killed more than 700 people this year.

"The bottom line is, Ebola is worsening in West Africa," said Dr. Tom Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who announced the travel warning.

He called Ebola "a tragic, dreadful and merciless virus."

The purpose of the travel warning is to not only protect U.S. travelers, but limit their use of overburdened clinics and hospitals for injuries or other illnesses, he said.

The last time the CDC issued a high-level warning was in 2003 because of a SARS outbreak in Asia. The World Health Organization, however, has not issued a similar travel warning for the West Africa region.

The current outbreak is the largest since the disease first emerged in Africa nearly 40 years ago. The virus is contagious and is spread by direct contact with blood or bodily fluids from a sick person. Ebola can't be spread like flu through casual contact or breathing in the same air.

Experts estimate that in this outbreak, about 60 percent of the people who have gotten sick with Ebola have died — a frightening fatality rate that is among the highest of any disease. There is no vaccine and no specific treatment.

Two American aid workers in Liberia have been diagnosed with Ebola, and one of them was getting an experimental treatment.

At the White House, press secretary Josh Earnest said the U.S. was looking into options to bring them back. While the U.S. would facilitate the trip, private companies would be used to transport them.

On Thursday afternoon, officials at Atlanta's Emory University Hospital said they expected one of the Americans to be transferred there "within the next several days." The hospital declined to identify which aid worker, citing privacy laws.

The hospital, which is near the CDC's main campus, has a special isolation unit built in collaboration with the CDC. It is one of only four facilities of its kind in the United States.

The CDC has about two dozen staffers in West Africa to help try to control the outbreak. Frieden said the CDC will send 50 more in the next month. CDC workers in Africa also are helping at airports to help screen passengers, he said.

The CDC has said the risk of the Ebola virus coming to the United States remains small. On Monday, the agency sent a health alert to U.S. doctors, stressing that they should ask about foreign travel by patients who come down with Ebola-like symptoms, including fever, headache, vomiting and diarrhea.

Even if someone infected with Ebola came to the U.S., the risk of an outbreak is considered very low, Frieden said. Patients are contagious only when they show symptoms, and U.S. hospitals are well equipped to isolate cases and control spread of the virus.

Frieden also noted that relatively few people travel from West Africa to the United States. He said about 10,000 travelers from those countries come to the United States in an average three- or four-month period, and most do not arrive on direct flights. □



# Blow to House GOP leadership as border bill falters

ASHLEY PARKER

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**WASHINGTON** - Facing a rebellion among their most conservative ranks, House Republicans were forced Thursday to withdraw an emergency spending measure to address the surge of young Central American migrants at the southern border, in a major embarrassment to the new leadership team. House Republican leaders are expected to hold another meeting with their members Friday to decide how to move forward, and many lawmakers said they would stay in Washington as long as necessary to put the bill on the floor. Some lawmakers had already departed Thursday for the five-week summer break, and were summoned back to the Capitol.

"We'll stay until we vote," said Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif. House Republicans, who have long called for strengthening security at the nation's southern border, may now be forced to head home for the recess with nothing to show for their efforts - something many Republicans fear will be an enormous political liability.

The blow to Speaker John A. Boehner and his new team - including Reps. Kevin McCarthy of California, the new majority leader, and Steve Scalise of Louisiana, the whip - makes it unlikely that any legislation to address what both Democrats and Republicans call an urgent humanitarian crisis will reach President Barack Obama's desk before the August break. The failure of even the most modest of Republican border bills also underscored how the prospects of a broad immigration overhaul have ground to a final crushing halt amid more than a year of congressional infighting and dysfunction. On the Senate side, Democrats were expected to face a similar blow, as they were unlikely to clear a final procedural hurdle on their \$2.7 billion immigration bill.

Many House Republicans expressed frustration verging on outrage at their more conservative colleagues for holding up the bill, arguing that heading home for the August break having not even voted on any immigration legislation would be politically devastating.

But Rep. Ralph M. Hall, R-Texas, expressed doubts about reaching a quick consensus, joking that his colleagues might end up staying "until Christmas" at

money but not for the policy changes. In my party, we'll vote for the policy changes but not the money to implement the policy. This is extraordinarily frustrating and infuriating for people like me. We have a crisis on our hands."

The inability of either chamber to reach a consensus on even a scaled-back bill to deal with the border crisis left Democrats, Republicans and the president heading into the break with no clear winners. Re-

endanger the young migrants fleeing violence in their home countries.

"This situation shows the intense concern within our conference - and among the American people - about the need to ensure the security of our borders and the president's refusal to faithfully execute our laws," House Republican leaders said in a statement. "There are numerous steps the president can and should be taking right now, without the need for

and the \$3.7 billion that Obama had requested.

Boehner and his team had scrambled to hold together their already fragile coalition to support the border bill by promising members a vote on an additional measure designed to curb Obama's executive authority to stop the deportation of certain undocumented immigrants, including those brought to the country as young children.

But in the end, it was not



Faith leaders and immigrant activists protest the deportation of immigrants, in Washington, July 31, 2014. The Thursday rally came as House Republican leaders withdrew without a vote on a measure addressing the border, conceding that the emergency spending bill would be rejected by the GOP's most conservative members. (Stephen Crowley/The New York Times)

the rate they were moving. Rep. Charlie Dent, a leading moderate Republican from Pennsylvania, said, "Doing nothing is the worst of all worlds."

"You have people on our side of the aisle who go through all sorts of contortions to get to 'no,'" Dent said. "On the Democratic side, they'll vote for the

publicans did not want to go home without having at least voted to address the crisis at the border - a situation that could have negative ramifications for the November midterm elections, as well as for the 2016 presidential race - and Democrats worried that any bill the Republicans could pass would

congressional action, to secure our borders and ensure these children are returned swiftly and safely to their countries."

The Republican leaders had hoped to push through a modest \$659 million emergency spending measure, well short of the \$2.7 billion that Senate Democrats had proposed

enough. House Republicans were not helped by their Senate counterparts, particularly Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, who on Wednesday night held a meeting over pizza and beer with more than a dozen of the House's most conservative lawmakers to urge them to vote against the immigration bill. □

## 112 arrested at protest against US deportations

LUIS ALONSO LUGO

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Immigrant activists and religious leaders massed outside the White House on Thursday to protest against U.S. policies on deporting migrants in the country illegally, and police arrested 112 demonstrators for blocking traffic.

The protesters urged President Barack Obama to immediately halt all deportations. They also called on him to extend relief for migrants by decree and to

protect Central American children crossing into the U.S. unaccompanied by adults.

Minerva Carcano, a bishop for the United Methodist Church in Los Angeles, said such protests are needed to "raise a moral voice, because you do not hear from either Congress or the White House."

"The two parties only think of immigrants for their political games, when elections come or to hurt their rivals," she said. "But immigrants are not balls, nor

ciphers. They are people." Pedro Palomino, a Peruvian journalist living in Baltimore, said he had put aside his fears and decided to publicly declare that he is in the U.S. without authorization by joining in the protest. He said it's time for Obama "to provide a solution for millions of immigrants" who are fearful of deportation.

An estimated 2 million people have been deported since Obama took office in 2009, and Palomino said he wants to keep that from

happening to his family. He said that he, his wife and two of their three children have lived in the U.S. since their tourist visa expired in 2002. "This is a fight for the rights of immigrants," Palomino said. The protest took place as Republican leaders withdrew legislation aimed at the immigration crisis from consideration in the U.S. House. Before the legislation stalled, White House officials said the president plans to decree relief for immigrants next month. □



# Report: CIA officers read US Senate emails

**KEN DILANIAN**

**AP Intelligence Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — CIA officers improperly accessed U.S. Senate computers, read the emails of Senate staff, and exhibited a "lack of candor" when interviewed by agency investigators, according to a declassified CIA inspector general's report. The document, released Thursday by the CIA, is a summary of an internal CIA investigation that prompted CIA Director John Brennan to abandon his defiant posture in the matter and apologize to Senate Intelligence Committee leaders. Brennan has convened an internal accountability board chaired by former Sen. Evan Bayh, a Democrat, that will examine whether the CIA officers should be disciplined, said his spokesman, Dean Boyd. The agency officers searched Senate computers without permission for information gathered in the course of a Senate investigation into the CIA's interrogation techniques. The summary of a classified report on post-9/11 detentions and interrogations that accuses the CIA of misconduct is expected to be made public soon.



**Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington. The CIA's insistence that it did not spy on its Senate overseers collapsed July 31 with the release of a stark report by the agency's internal watchdog documenting improper computer surveillance and obstructionist behavior by CIA officers. Feinstein said in a statement: "The investigation confirmed what I said on the Senate floor in March — CIA personnel inappropriately searched Senate intelligence committee computers in violation of an agreement we had reached, and I believe in violation of the constitutional separation of powers." (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)**

Five agency employees improperly accessed Senate computers in an effort to track down certain documents, the inspector general found. Then, after Brennan ordered a halt to the review, the CIA office of se-

curity began a "limited investigation" that led to surveillance of Senate emails, the report said. Three information technology staff "demonstrated a lack of candor about their activities" in interviews

with CIA investigators, the report said. The CIA inspector general shared his findings with the Justice Department, which has so far declined to pursue criminal charges against the CIA employees, officials said. The inspector general concluded "that some CIA employees acted in a manner inconsistent with the common understanding reached between" the Senate Intelligence Committee and the CIA in 2009 regarding access to a shared classified computer network, Boyd said. The shared network had been used by Senate aides to access classified files on CIA interrogations. The CIA penetration occurred after the aides got ahold of documents that the CIA claimed were internal, but which showed that some CIA officials shared misgivings about the treatment of al Qaeda detainees. Brennan informed Senate Intelligence Committee Chairwoman Dianne Feinstein, A Democrat, and Sen. Saxby Chambliss, the top Republican on the committee, "and apologized to them for such actions by CIA officers as described in the (inspector general's) report," Boyd said. □

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CASINO AND SHOPS



# Union limits and voter id rule upheld in Wisconsin

MONICA DAVEY

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The Wisconsin Supreme Court on Thursday upheld one law that significantly limits collective bargaining rights for most public workers in the state and another that requires voters to show photo identification.

The court's decision on collective bargaining rights provided Gov. Scott Walker, who led efforts to pass the law three years ago, with an important victory in an election year.

The law, which drew tens of thousands of union supporters to Wisconsin's state capital in protest and brought national attention to Walker, a Republican considered a 2016 presidential possibility, had been mired in litigation since 2011. The decision Thursday appeared to bring an end to those challenges.

The justices upheld the law by a 5-2 vote, rejecting



**Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, who led efforts three years ago to pass a law significantly limiting collective bargaining rights for most public workers in the state, at the National Governors Association meeting in Nashville, Tenn. The Wisconsin Supreme Court upheld the law, which has been mired in litigation since 2011, on Thursday, July 31, 2014 — an important victory for Walker in an election year.**

(Joe Buglewicz/The New York Times)

arguments that the legislation cuts collective bargaining rights to a degree that violates the Constitutional rights of workers.

The law, known as Act 10, bars automatic transfers of union dues from workers' paychecks and increases

the amount workers contribute to their health care and pensions.

It proved divisive in the state, leading to recall efforts against Walker and state legislators, and it remains an issue in Walker's re-election campaign for

governor this year.

"Act 10 has saved Wisconsin taxpayers more than \$3 billion," Walker said in a statement after the decision. "Today's ruling is a victory for those hard-working taxpayers."

In 2011, Walker argued that the state needed to rein in collective bargaining rights to handle a state budget deficit, though union leaders said they believed the governor simply wanted to put an end to the power of labor unions.

In a pair of other rulings, the justices upheld a Wisconsin law requiring that photo identification be shown at polling places. The decision, however, will have no immediate effect on Wisconsin voters because of

a federal court decision in April that the identification rule violates the Constitution.

That ruling is now being reviewed by a federal appeals court in Chicago.

Walker signed the requirement for photo identification in 2011, and its advocates say it merely prevents voting fraud.

Opponents say it is really aimed at changing voter turnout by discouraging minority groups and other voters who tend to support Democrats from going to the polls.

Around the nation, the issue is being weighed in various courts, leaving voting rules still uncertain in some places with midterm elections only months away. □

## US attorney warns Cuomo on ethics case

SUSANNE CRAIG

THOMAS KAPLAN

WILLIAM K. RASHBAUM

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In an escalation of the confrontation between the U.S. attorney in Manhattan, Preet Bharara, and New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo over the governor's cancellation of his own anti-corruption commission, Bharara has threatened to investigate the Cuomo administration for possible obstruction of justice or witness tampering.

The warning, in a sharply worded letter from Bharara's office, came after several members of the panel issued public statements defending the governor's handling of the panel, known as the Moreland Commission, which Cuomo created last year with promises of cleaning up corruption in state politics but shut down abruptly in March.

Bharara's office has been investigating the shutdown of the commission, and pursuing its unfinished corruption cases, since April.

In the letter, sent late Wednesday afternoon to a lawyer for the panel, prosecutors alluded to a number of statements made by its members Monday, which generally defended Cuomo's handling of the commission.

The statements were released on the same day Cuomo first publicly responded to a report in The New York Times that described how he and his aides had compromised the commission's work.

At least some of those statements were prompted by calls from the governor or his emissaries, according to people with direct knowledge of the situation who were unwilling to be named for fear of reprisal. One commissioner who received a call from an intermediary on behalf of the governor's office said he found the call upsetting and declined to make a statement.

The letter from prosecutors, which was read to The New York Times, says, "We have reason to believe a num-

ber of commissioners recently have been contacted about the commission's work, and some commissioners have been asked to issue public statements characterizing events and facts regarding the commission's operation."

"To the extent anyone attempts to influence or tamper with a witness's recollection of events relevant to our investigation, including the recollection of a commissioner or one of the commission's employees, we request that you advise our office immediately, as we must consider whether such actions constitute obstruction of justice or tampering with witnesses that violate federal law."

Reached late Wednesday, a spokesman for the governor did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the letter from Bharara's office. A lawyer for the commission declined to comment.

The Times reported last week that Cuomo's office had deeply compromised the panel's work. □

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# Firefighters keep Yosemite blaze far from sequoias



A plane drops fire retardant as firefighters battle a blaze in El Portal, Calif., near Yosemite National Park. Firefighters in the state are also battling another wildfire in the Sierra Nevada foothills east of Sacramento.

(AP Photo/AI Golub)

**YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, California (AP)** — Firefighters brought a blaze that had spread in Yosemite National Park under control, and containment lines kept the wildfire from threatening some the treasured sequoias that are

among the largest and oldest living trees on Earth. The flames spread about a half-mile (800 meters) Wednesday, park officials said in a statement, but it was brought under control. The fire remained about 10 miles (16 kilometers)

from Merced Grove, one of three Yosemite stands of giant sequoias. The towering trees grow only on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada and can live longer than 3,000 years. Flames could reach the grove if the fire makes a significant surge, park spokesman Scott Gediman said. Low humidity was likely to lead to an active night for the fire into Thursday, and thunderstorms brought the threat of lightning, the park's statement said. With the exception of some smoke in Yosemite valley, the park itself was largely unaffected by the fire and remained open, Gediman said. The fire was threatening about 50 homes that remained under evacuation

orders. It has destroyed a home and a duplex and burned through more than 6 square miles since it began on Saturday.

It was 34 percent contained. Fire crews also were battling a blaze in Sierra National Forest about 60 miles (96 kilometers) northeast of Fresno that grew substantially late Tuesday and had spread across nearly 9 square miles (23 sq. kilometers). It was threatening about 20 homes, though they were not under mandatory evacuation orders, said Anne Grandy, a spokeswoman for the park. Several campgrounds and cabins were evacuated and closed, the U.S. Forest Service said in a statement. □

## Chicago: Demoted worker shoots CEO, kills self

**DON BABWIN**  
**Associated Press**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — A demoted worker shot and critically wounded his company's CEO before fatally shooting himself Thursday inside a downtown Chicago office building in the bustling financial district, police said.

Police Superintendent Gary McCarthy said a worker at a technological company pulled a gun after entering the 17th-floor office to meet one-on-one with his CEO.

There was a struggle for the gun, and the CEO was shot twice before the gunman fatally shot himself, McCarthy said.

McCarthy said the company was downsizing and "a number of people," including the alleged shooter, were being demoted.

"Apparently he was despondent over the fact that he got demoted," McCarthy said.

The 54-year-old victim was listed in critical condition at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, according to a hospital spokeswoman. Police said the 59-year-old alleged gunman was pronounced dead at the



Chicago police stand outside a downtown high-rise office building following a shooting inside the building Thursday, July 31, 2014, in Chicago. Police said a demoted worker shot and critically injured his company's CEO before fatally shooting himself. (AP Photo/M. Spencer Green)

scene. The men's names and the name of the company haven't been released. The office is in the Bank of America building, a block from the Chicago Board of Trade and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Workers said they received emails from the building

security at about 10 a.m. telling them there was a security situation in the lobby and to stay at their desks. A few minutes later, someone came over the intercom to tell them everything was clear. "We didn't know what to think," said Jay Patel, who works on the 11th floor. □



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## US Financial Front:

## As American job market strengthens, many don't feel it

JOSH BOAK  
C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writers

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — For millions of workers, happy days aren't quite here again. Though the U.S. unemployment rate has plunged since the start of last year to a five-year low of 6.1 percent, the Gallup Organization has found that consumers' view of the economy is the glummiest it's been in seven months. The July jobs report being released Friday will likely show a sixth straight month of healthy 200,000-plus gains. Yet for millions of people like Douglas Hunter, not much has changed. Hunter earned \$14 an hour cleaning oil drums before the Great Recession seized the economy and his job was axed. At 53, Hunter

now works three days a week for \$9.25 an hour, mopping floors and fixing fryers at two McDonald's restaurants in Chicago.

"If the economy is getting better, I'm not sure for whom," he said. "It certainly hasn't trickled down to me."

The Gallup Organization has found that consumers' view of the economy is the glummiest it's been in seven months.

As the economic recovery enters its sixth year, a number of factors help explain why many Americans don't feel better off: Income hasn't rebounded. Millions are working part time even though they want full-time jobs. It's taking longer to find work. People are still struggling with mortgage debt. Some



Job seekers attend a job fair held by Sheetz to staff their under-construction distribution center, in Burlington, N.C. As the economic recovery enters its sixth year, many Americans don't feel better off.

(AP Photo/The Times-News, Sam Roberts)

## US jobless aid applications rise up slightly to 302,000

JOSH BOAK  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — More people sought U.S. unemployment benefits last week, but jobless claims remain at pre-recession levels.

Weekly applications for unemployment aid rose 23,000 to a seasonally adjusted 302,000, the Labor Department said Thursday. The prior week's claims were revised down to 279,000, the lowest since May 2000.

The four-week average, a less volatile measure, fell 3,500 to 297,250. That's the lowest average since April 2006, more than a year before the Great Recession began at the end of 2007. Applications are a proxy for layoffs. When employers keep their workers, it suggests potential income gains, active hiring and confidence that the economy is growing.

"The claims data continue to signal an improving labor market," said Jim O'Sullivan, chief U.S. economist at High Frequency

Economics, in a client note. Employers added 288,000 jobs in June, the fifth straight month of job gains above 200,000. That's the first such stretch since 1999, during the height of the dot-com boom. The unemployment rate fell to 6.1 percent, the lowest since September 2008.

Economists forecast that the July employment report being released Friday will show that 225,000 jobs were added, according to a survey by the data firm FactSet. They forecast that the unemployment rate held at 6.1 percent in July. Payroll provider ADP said Wednesday that private employers added 218,000 jobs in July, down from 281,000 in June.

Steady hiring gains have yet to lift wages by much. Wage growth has slightly outpaced inflation since the recession ended more than five years ago.

But more people with jobs increases the total number of paychecks, which could boost consumer spending and growth. □

feel down about the economy because of their political views. And most people don't feel free to spend as much as they used to.

A closer look at the factors: **LAGGING INCOME:**

Most people are still earn-

ing less, adjusted for inflation, than before the recession struck at the end of 2007. Even many who kept their jobs through the recession — or easily found work after being let go — are no better off. The typical fam-

ily income in current dollars is \$52,959, according to Sentier Research. Factoring in inflation, that's \$3,303 less than before the recession — a nearly 6 percent drop.

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## Target taps an outsider as CEO for needed shakeup

**CANDICE CHOI**  
**M. CHAPMAN**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Target is bringing in an outsider as its CEO for the first time as the retailer fights to redefine itself to American shoppers.

The Minneapolis-based company said Thursday that it named PepsiCo executive Brian Cornell to the top spot, replacing Chief Financial Officer John Mulligan, who had been keeping the seat warm since May.

The announcement comes roughly three months after Target CEO Gregg Steinhafel resigned following a large data breach in the run-up to the holiday shopping season last year.

Steinhafel had been dealing with problems on a number of other fronts too, including persistent perceptions that Target charges higher prices than its rivals and concerns that it had lost its magic touch for cheap chic offerings.

As such, Cornell faces a daunting task, especially when considering how the slow economic recovery has pressured the broader retail industry. With lower-income customers still struggling, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has pushed low prices even more aggressively to go after penny-pinching customers. For its latest fiscal year, Target reported its first annual profit decline in five years.

Still, the infusion of new blood is a signal to Wall Street that Target is serious about addressing its internal issues.

"Outside perspective is what Target needs, in our view, given the need to rebuild trust," said Greg Melich, head of consumer research at ISI Group.

PepsiCo Inc., which is based in Purchase, New York, said in a statement it expects to announce Cornell's successor soon.

On Thursday, Target said Cornell's top priorities will be to ramp up its performance and help it evolve into a retailer that seamlessly incorporates online and brick-and-mortar experiences for its shoppers.

Target is looking to start anew after announcing in December a data breach in which hackers stole millions of customers' credit- and debit-card records. The theft badly damaged the chain's reputation and profits and spawned dozens of legal actions that could prove costly. Target's response since the theft has included free credit monitoring for affected customers and an overhaul of security systems.

The company's expansion into Canada, its first foray outside the U.S., has also been a disappointment. Analysts have said that Target botched its Canadian expansion by moving too aggressively. The company opened about 120 stores in the latest year and lost nearly \$1 billion in the Canadian business.

In May, it fired the president of its Canadian operations, Tony Fisher, and replaced him with Mark Schindele, a company veteran.

Target must also work to restore faith among its investors. In June, at its annual shareholders meeting, the final shareholder vote tally showed a rise in dissent against key board members. All 10 nominees were elected to the board but the rise in votes against several directors shows how uneasy investors remain following the data breach.

Cornell, who is set to become Target's CEO on Aug. 12, will receive a base salary of \$1.3 million, according to a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. He will be eligible for a bonus of up to \$2 million and stock-based awards with a target value of \$3.8 million, according to the filing. □

## CEO Chris Nassetta: The architect of Hilton's turnaround

**S. MAYEROWITZ**  
**Associated Press**  
**McLEAN, Va. (AP)** — Nearly

every weekend, Chris Nassetta is cooking in his family's oversized kitchen, outfitted with two commercial-grade refrigerators, three sinks and a deep fryer.

These aren't small meals.

the world, by rooms, with 679,000. Of its planned hotels, 60 percent are now outside the U.S. Its initial public offering last December raised \$2.35 billion, surpassing Twitter's IPO the month prior. It was the second largest IPO of the year and the biggest ever for a

pet characters Statler and Waldorf were introduced, named after two Hilton properties in New York.

But by 2007, many of Hilton's rooms were tired looking. Private equity firm Blackstone Group purchased the company; Nassetta was brought in



**Hilton CEO Chris Nassetta poses for a portrait in the Hilton Tysons Corner Hotel in McLean, Va. When Nassetta took over as CEO in 2007, Hilton lagged behind other hoteliers. Today, Hilton Worldwide is the largest hotelier in the world, by rooms, with 679,000 rooms.**

(AP Photo/J. David Ake)

Between his wife, six daughters, friends, neighbors and relatives, there are often 40 people dining. "I'm not a gourmet chef," Nassetta says. "I tend to cook what the kids beg for: my grandmother's old recipes of spicy red sauces, some sausage and ziti."

Most of the time, Nassetta is on the road. In his day job as CEO of Hilton hotels, he has about 732,000 guests per night to make happy. When Nassetta took over in 2007, Hilton lagged behind other hoteliers. He had to restructure not only the operations, but the culture. "People really didn't know where we were going," he says.

Nassetta focused on lucrative international markets — at the time, only 19 percent of Hilton's new hotels were planned for overseas. He also franchised more hotels — a quick way to grow the company with minimal capital investment or risk.

Today, Hilton Worldwide is the largest hotelier in

hotel.

Nassetta, 51, is as likely to greet you with a high five as a handshake. He gets animated about the gifts he's received from world leaders who welcomed Hilton into their country, like a zebra skin rug, swords and watches.

"I know I've got a dagger here," Nassetta says, rummaging through an office cabinet.

And he loves to chat. An interview lasts three hours, long enough to require a bathroom break — but not a pause in the conversation. Nassetta talks all the way through the washing of his hands.

"I am very long-winded," he acknowledges. "Everybody tells me that."

Hilton was once an innovator. The pina colada cocktail is said to have been invented in 1954 at the Caribe Hilton in Puerto Rico. Hilton pioneered the idea of an airport hotel in 1959 in San Francisco. And highlighting its cultural importance, in 1975 the Mup-

to turn it around. Nassetta moved the headquarters from Beverly Hills, California to the Virginia suburbs of Washington D.C. There was a massive bloodletting: of the 600 headquarters employees, only 130 moved east. "If you want to change a culture, you change 80 percent of the people," he says. "We had lost touch with the front line." So Nassetta and his senior executives started spending one week each year working at hotels — in housekeeping, engineering and the front desk.

"Their job is harder than your job," Nassetta says. "You get in there, and you pay them the respect."

Nassetta is the fourth of six kids. His grandfather arrived in America from Italy before the Great Depression with a few dollars in his pocket and just as many words of English in his vocabulary. He was a woodworker and started his own shop in Connecticut making church pews and cabinets. □





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## Ukraine:

# Monitors reach MH-17 crash site after delays

ANDREW ROTH

© 2014 New York Times

**KIEV, Ukraine** - International monitors finally reached the crash site of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 in eastern Ukraine on Thursday, after being blocked for days by fighting in the area between Ukrainian troops and pro-Russian separatists.

Officials from the Ukrainian government said it had temporarily suspended offensive operations against the rebels to allow the team of monitors to reach the site safely. Michael Bociurkiw, a spokesman for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe who was with the team, said by telephone that they had traveled successfully through checkpoints in both government-controlled and rebel-held territory without encountering serious fighting.

At one point, however, explosions could be heard in the direction of Donetsk, Bociurkiw said. And a CNN television crew at the crash site broadcast images of a column of smoke rising nearby.

At one rebel checkpoint on the approach road to the site, near the village of Rozsypnoe, The Associated Press reported that a separatist militiaman allowed the monitors to pass but fired a shot in the air to keep accompanying reporters from proceeding any farther. He said there was still fighting in the village, the agency reported.

Bociurkiw said the two Dutch, two Australian, and eight OSCE experts who reached the site limited their work Thursday to initial reconnaissance, preparing the way for later search and recovery work by a larger

team waiting in Donetsk, the provincial capital.

He said the reconnaissance team determined that the crash site had remained largely intact and unchanged since the plane, carrying 298 people, fell to the ground on July 17. Though local emergency workers collected many of the victims' bodies for shipment to a forensic laboratory in the Netherlands last week, Bociurkiw said the team observed human remains still at the site Thursday.

Bociurkiw said the monitors' success in reaching the site, after four failed attempts, was attributable to "negotiating with all the stakeholders," meaning both the Ukrainian government and the rebels who have controlled the site since the crash.

He said at 5 p.m. Thursday that the team was leaving the crash site for the day to travel back to Donetsk, about 40 miles to the west, on a circuitous, four-hour route.

Vladimir Antyufeyev, a rebel political leader, told journalists that the separatists were mainly responsible for the visit's success.

"We have risked our people so that the OSCE mission was able to do its job," said Antyufeyev, the acting prime minister for the separatist government in Donetsk, according to the Russian news agency Interfax. "We ensured their safety. They went to the scene, and already returned back, under our security detail."

The Russian government aviation agency said Thursday that it had sent its own team of experts to Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, in hopes of reaching the crash site



An Ukrainian government army's soldier stands guard next to the cars of Convoy of the OSCE mission in Ukraine at a check-point in the village of Debaltseve, Donetsk region, eastern Ukraine Thursday, July 31, 2014. International monitors finally reached the crash site of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 in eastern Ukraine on Thursday, after being blocked for days by fighting in the area between Ukrainian troops and pro-Russian separatists. (AP Photo/Dmitry Lovetsky)

and examining the wreckage. Russia has denied allegations by Ukraine and Western governments that it supplied missiles to the rebels that were used to shoot down the plane, and has claimed that photographs and other evidence offered to support those allegations were fabrications. Moscow has asserted that the Ukrainian military was responsible for the disaster. The pro-Russian rebel leaders will send representatives to Minsk, Belarus, on Friday to take part in talks with Ukraine, Russia and the OSCE, news agencies reported. Interfax quoted an official of involved in arranging the talks in Minsk, whom it did not name, saying that the talks would probably focus narrowly on two issues, security at the crash site and an exchange of captives. Moscow kept up its economic pressure on Ukraine on Thursday by adding fruit juice to the growing list of Ukrainian agricultural products that have been banned from Russia.

In Kiev, Ukraine's deeply fractured legislature man-

aged to head off a dispute with international creditors who have promised to bail out the country with \$17.5

billion in loans, by approving budget amendments and tax measures that the creditors had demanded. □

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# Libya Islamic militias declare control of Benghazi



Libyan women cross into Tunisia at the Ras Ajdir border post between Libya and Tunisia, southern Tunisia, after fleeing from Libya, Thursday, July 31, 2014. Up to 6,000 people a day have fled Libya into neighboring Tunisia this week, the Tunisian foreign minister said Wednesday, the biggest influx since Libya's 2011 civil war in a sign of the spiraling turmoil as rival militias battle over control of the airport in the capital Tripoli.

(AP Photo/Ali Manssour)

**OMAR ALMOSMARI**  
**MAGGIE MICHAEL**  
**Associated Press**

**BENGHAZI, Libya (AP)** — Islamic hard-line militias, including the group accused by the United States in a 2012 attack that killed the ambassador and three other Americans, claimed control of Libya's second

largest city, Benghazi, after overrunning army barracks and seizing heavy weapons. The sweep in the eastern city is part of a new backlash by hard-liners against their rivals ahead of the sitting of a new parliament. In the capital Tripoli, escalating battles Thursday be-

tween militias prompted multiple foreign governments to scramble to get out their citizens as thousands of Libyans fled across the border into Tunisia. The weeks-long surge of violence renewed fears that Libya, which has been in chaos since the 2011 civil war that ousted longtime

dictator Moammar Gadhafi, is plunging deeper into civil strife.

With a crippled central government and weak army and police, the country's numerous rival militias have held sway in Libya for the past three years. Though they battled each other frequently, a balance of fear among them prevented any from going too far and forced them to divide areas of power. But now, there militias led by Islamist and extremist commanders appear to be trying to gain a more decisive upper hand.

The Health Ministry said in a statement Thursday that the death toll in Tripoli since the violence intensified in the past month reached 214, with more than 981 people wounded.

Militias allied to Islamist politicians have been fighting for weeks to wrest control of Tripoli's airport from rival militias, destroying much of the airport in the process. On Thursday, witnesses said that random rocket fire hit houses and vehicles in western Tripoli,

sending residents fleeing. Shelling hit a funeral in a southern district, killing four children and three women from a single family, security officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the press. Thursday evening, thousands of residents marched into Tripoli's central Martyrs Square in a protest denouncing militias. They raised banners reading, "Libya only" and "Enough bloodshed."

Tripoli residents said fuel and gasoline shortages were worsening, and food prices had leaped. "All of this is caused by political parties that are fighting for power," said Abdelfattah Alghanai, a man shopping for vegetables.

By noon on Thursday, more than 10,000 Libyans fled by land across the border into neighboring Tunisia over the previous 12 hours, Tunisia's state news agency reported. They joined thousands of other Libyans who have already streamed into Tunisia in recent days.

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## Lebanese Hezbollah commander killed in Iraq

**BASSEM MROUE**  
**Associated Press**  
**BEIRUT (AP)** — A commander with the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah was recently killed while on a "jihadi mission" in Iraq, officials in Lebanon said Thursday.

The officials, who are close to the Shiite Hezbollah, said that Ibrahim Mohammed al-Haj was killed sometime in the past week. They did not provide any details on his mission or circumstances of his death and spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to media.

It was the first known Hezbollah death in Iraq since Sunni extremists with the Islamic State captured large parts of the country north and west of Baghdad in June.

Iraqi officials have said that a handful of advisers from Hezbollah are offering front-line guidance to Iraqi Shiite militias fighting the Sunni extremists north of Baghdad. But it is not known if — beyond the advisers — any Hezbollah fighters are fighting along Iraqi Shiite militiamen.

Last year, Hezbollah fighters openly joined Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces in a decision that has fueled sectarian tensions in Lebanon. On Thursday, Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV aired footage of al-Haj's funeral that was held in the Lebanese eastern town of Mashghara on Wednesday. The funeral was attended by top Hezbollah officials, including the head of the group's parliamentary bloc Mohammed Raad and Minister of Industry Hussein Haj Hassan.

Al-Manar referred to al-Haj as "commander," saying he died while "performing his jihadi duties" — a term

used by the group when its members are killed in action. Al-Haj's coffin, draped in the group's yellow flag, was carried by Hezbollah fighters in uniform who walked on a red carpet as a band played music.

In July 2006, al-Haj was among a group of Hezbollah fighters who crossed into Israel and captured two Israeli soldiers and brought them into Lebanon, Lebanese security officials told The Associated Press. They spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

The capture triggered a 34-day war between Israel and Hezbollah that left 160 Israelis and 1,200 Lebanese dead. Al-Manar said al-Haj's achievements on the battlefield had "pained the enemy," referring to Israel. He was the second Hezbollah commander to be killed in recent months. □

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## Mexico drug lord taunts authorities with videos

PAULINA VILLEGAS

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**MEXICO CITY** - Drug lords in Mexico normally try to stay out of the limelight, amassing an army to help hide them and employing plastic surgeons to alter their features.

Not Servando Gómez, one of the most sought-after kingpins and a leader of a brutal gang that gave rise to vigilante groups in Michoacán state, who in recent months has made regular appearances on television, news media websites and YouTube.

In his latest online video, Gómez, known as "La Tuta," or the teacher, is shown in a video posted this week drinking beer and chatting with the son of a former governor of Michoacán, suggesting his gang's deep infiltration of the political class. The two men laugh and joke about several public officials.

The Mexican authorities said Wednesday that they are investigating the circumstances of the video, which was leaked to the news website Quadrantin, and will seek to question Rodrigo Vallejo, the son of the former governor, Fausto Vallejo, who stepped down in June. His resignation occurred days after a picture of his son with Gómez was leaked to newspapers.

Rodrigo Vallejo said in a Facebook post that he was forced to attend the meeting and that the video was edited in a manner that made him look guilty. His father said in a letter posted to Facebook and Twitter that Rodrigo was forced to attend the meeting because he had been kidnapped.

Michoacán is one of Mexico's most violent states, in large part because of the killings, kidnappings and extortion by the criminal group Gómez leads, the Knights Templar. Vigilante groups, fed up that local and state police had done little to stop the gang, sprang up during the past year to protect the people from the gang violence, leading the federal authorities to swoop in and restore state control.

They allowed several members of the vigilantes to join a "rural defense force" to work alongside the federal police, although questions have been raised if the vigilantes themselves are turning into yet another menace.

Several leaders of the Knights Templar have been arrested or killed - Gómez's son was arrested last month - and security experts said the gang has been weakened.

But Gómez's ability to remain at large, and his defiance in the media, has left some in Mexico wondering if he has eluded capture for so long because local officials are protecting him.

"He has political authorities on his side and, even more importantly so, the protection and support from local communities as well," said Eduardo Guerrero, a security analyst at a Mexico City consulting firm. "It is very difficult to break down a network like that." □

## Default fuels uncertainty in Argentina

A. CALATRAVA

Associated Press

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)** — Stocks fell sharply in Argentina on Thursday as the country entered into economic uncertainty with its second default in 13 years, one forced upon it by New York hedge funds with the backing of U.S. courts.

The Merval stock index closed down more than 8 percent a day after Argentina walked away from talks in New York, where a court-appointed mediator led negotiations with U.S. hedge funds demanding some \$1.5 billion.

Economy Minister Axel Kicillof made it clear that Argentina and the holdout creditors remain far apart — he and other officials refuse to concede that the country is even legally in default. But he told reporters that he was nevertheless open to further talks involving a court-appointed mediator.

"We remain open to dialogue," Kicillof said. Argentine shares had rallied on Wednesday when a group of private Argentine bankers announced it would offer to buy up the disputed debt. Such a deal would have enabled Argentina to make a late interest payment owed to a separate group of bondholders, which would have allowed it to avoid default. "The stock exchange is falling heavily because it was, in the end, surprised by the fact that negotiations yesterday were frustrated," said Belen Olaiz, an economist with ABCEB.com Consultants in Buenos Aires.

Olaiz said some investors may also have been spooked by Kicillof's sharp criticism of the hedge fund investors, raising worry the dispute is far from resolu-

tion. Speaking to reporters after the collapse of talks, Kicillof repeatedly referred to the investors as "vultures" and called their demands "extortion."

Fitch Ratings cut its credit ratings for Argentina on Thursday following the lead of Standard & Poors. The eighth default in Argentina's history did not seem to rattle global markets, largely because investors have been well aware

that could lift a court order blocking Argentina from paying \$539 million in interest due to bondholders "and the default can be cured rather rapidly."

Argentina's options to satisfy the hedge funds are limited until at least the end of the year. That's when a clause in its 2005 and 2010 debt-restructuring agreements will expire, freeing it from an obligation to pay those earlier bondholders



**Axel Kicillof, Argentina's economy minister, addresses reporters during a press conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Thursday, July 31, 2014. The collapse of talks with U.S. creditors sent Argentina into its second debt default in 13 years and raised questions about what comes next for financial markets and the South American nation's staggering economy.**

(AP Photo/Eduardo Di Baia)

of Argentina's problems since its record \$100 billion default in 2001. Traders had also been preparing for a worst-case scenario before the talks fell apart, and many still hope a deal will be struck.

"The markets already sold off a fair amount before the news late yesterday night that we were definitely going into a default scenario," said Alberto Ramos, who analyzes Argentina for Goldman Sachs. "But now, there's still the possibility that some deal is reached between the holdouts and some private entity."

If a private group were to buy the debt, he said,

terms equivalent to whatever deal it may reach with the hedge funds. Violating that clause, Argentina says, could make it liable to claims of more than \$109 billion.

Ordinary Argentines seemed to take the default in stride, having grown used to difficulty. Although they feel the pressure on the frail economy, they say it's not as bad as the crisis of 13 years ago, when one of every five Argentines was out of work and some reported going hungry. At least 27 people died in protests and Argentina saw a revolving door of five presidents in two weeks. □



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## With ECB seen on hold; Eurozone inflation dips down again

**JUERGEN BAETZ**  
**Associated Press**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — The inflation rate in the 18-nation eurozone dropped again in July, official data showed Thursday, in a worrying sign that adds pressure on the European Central Bank to beef up its efforts to spur the economy.

Extremely low inflation is a concern because it can lead to deflation, in which falling prices choke off growth.

In a preliminary estimate, Eurostat, the European Union's statistical agency, said the inflation rate fell to 0.4 percent from the previous month's 0.5 percent, where analysts had predicted it would remain. Inflation is at its lowest reading since October 2009, when the world economy was hit by a raging financial crisis that caused severe recessions.

And yet, most analysts expect the ECB to hold its nerve at its policy meeting next Thursday and not provide any further monetary stimulus to the economy. It is likely to say it will keep monitoring the impact of stimulus measures it unveiled in June as well as small improvements elsewhere in the economy, such as a drop in the unemployment rate also announced Thursday.

The ECB in June already cut its benchmark interest rate to 0.15 percent and cut another rate into negative territory for the first time to counter the threat posed by low inflation. It also promised billions in cheap loans for banks on condition they lend more to businesses.

The next step to help shore up the bloc's economy, if needed, would be launch-



**President of European Central Bank, Mario Draghi, second left, is seen in Frankfurt, Germany. The inflation rate in the 18-nation eurozone dropped again in July, official data showed Thursday, in a worrying sign that adds pressure on the European Central Bank to beef up its efforts to spur the economy.**

(AP Photo/Michael Probst)

ing a large-scale program of asset purchases. The policy, which involves injecting new money into the economy, has been used with some success by other major central banks like the U.S. Federal Reserve.

The risk is that inflation continues to undershoot expectations in coming months. That can be dangerous because once an economy falls into deflation, it can take years, if not decades, to emerge.

"The ECB has more work to do to tackle the risk of deflation," said analyst Jonathan Loynes of Capital Economics.

Judging by the market reaction, investors did not expect the ECB to start that kind of stimulus anytime soon. The euro, which typically weakens on the prospect of more monetary stimulus, was steady after the data.

The drop in the overall inflation rate is partly attributable to a fall in energy prices, which are volatile.

In fact, the core inflation rate, which excludes volatile food and fuel costs, remained unchanged on the month at 0.8 percent.

Thursday's figures nevertheless come as "a blow for the ECB," especially since the economic outlook remains weak, suggesting inflation is unlikely to rise anytime soon, said analyst Howard Archer of IHS Global Insight.

"There is undeniably a very real risk that eurozone consumer price inflation could go lower still ... barring an appreciable rise in oil and gas prices resulting from geopolitical factors hitting supplies," he said, referring to the current tension with Russia, which is a major oil and gas supplier for Europe.

The eurozone officially came out of recession in last year's second quarter, but growth remains weak. Output grew by only 0.2 percent in the first quarter from the previous three-month period. □

## Russia tensions hurts European companies

**BERLIN (AP)** — Russia's standoff with the West is hurting European companies, from heavy industry to sports goods makers, even before the latest sanctions have a chance to take effect.

A group representing Germany's machinery industry cut its output forecast sharply on Thursday, pointing to the uncertainty caused by political tension with Russia over its alleged role in destabilizing Ukraine. A profit warning from sports goods maker Adidas underlined wider unease over the crisis.

"The conflict with Russia is not just leaving tracks in bilateral trade — it is generally hindering demand in important sales markets for our industry," said Ralph Wiechers, chief economist for the VDMA, the industry group.

VDMA now expects production of machinery to grow by about 1 percent this year, rather than the 3 percent it predicted in October, before the crisis over Ukraine erupted. Machinery is a leading component of German exports to Russia, accounting for nearly a quarter of last year's total. The oil industry is also on alert. Earlier this week, British oil company BP said sanctions against Moscow could weaken its earnings.

The European Union has been very careful to design its sanctions on Russia so that they do not hurt its own economies too hard. But the VDMA report shows how difficult that may be to pull off, with the mere uncertainty over Russia creating an environment that can be toxic for business.

"Economic sentiment has darkened in many countries; as a result, orders cannot develop the momentum that would be needed" for 3 percent production growth this year, Wiechers said in a statement.

Russia's economy and currency have weakened this year as the crisis over Ukraine escalated. The U.S. and EU imposed a string of sanctions, mainly on individuals. This week, they approved tougher penalties aimed at hurting Russia's economy, punishing alleged Russian support for Ukrainian rebels.

Germany has Europe's biggest economy. With the new sanctions, "we know that we could suffer economically ourselves — we know that our trade with Russia is not overly large, but it does have some significance," Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel, who is also Germany's economy minister, said this week.

The profit warning from Adidas, based in Herzogenaurach, Germany and the biggest rival to U.S. giant Nike, underscored economic worries going well beyond goods that might face sanctions. The company cited the Russian tensions among the reasons for cutting its net profit forecast for this year to 650 million euros (\$870 million), from the range of 830 to 930 million euros previously forecast. Adidas — a sponsor of soccer's World Cup, which Russia is to host in 2018 — said it would "significantly reduce" the number of stores it open in the region this year and next and close more. □





## Blossoms Restaurant hosts Playa Linda Honoring Ceremony



**ORANJESTAD** – Playa Linda Beach Resort recently recognized exceptional members of its team who have completed milestone anniversaries with the resort this year. The popular time-

share resort, which strives to be a "home away from home" for both owners as well as its employees, clearly demonstrated this point with an amazing 180 combined years of experi-

ence shared among only 12 employees.

Among the honorees was Housekeeping Supervisor Sybil Henriquez, who has been with the Playa Linda since 1984, for a remarkable 30 years. Sybil is easily recognizable for the smile she often wears as her characteristic trademark. But Executive Housekeeper Ingrid Todd will tell you she is serious about her job. "She is very sweet, but she knows how to get things done and makes sure everything is always running smoothly," she notes in

praising Sybil's excellent work.

Sybil's colleagues in Housekeeping have certainly proven they are among the most dedicated employees at the Playa Linda. Florencia Koolman, Maira Ridderstaat and Jolanda Roza each celebrated 25 years with the resort this year.

Fellow honorees included Maria Matos and Johnny Silonero with 15 years, Adilson Silva do Nascimento, Milda Ras and Ismael Cornes with 10 years, and Jomar Abian, Yvette Rem-

mers and Remo Kock, each with 5 years.

Every employee who celebrated a milestone anniversary received a personalized picture frame and the traditional envelope as well as mutual admiration from their colleagues. A festive lunch at Blossoms Restaurant was held to help celebrate the occasion and provide a well-deserved thank you to all of the honorees for their hard work and commitment in making the Playa Linda one of the island's top timeshare resorts. □





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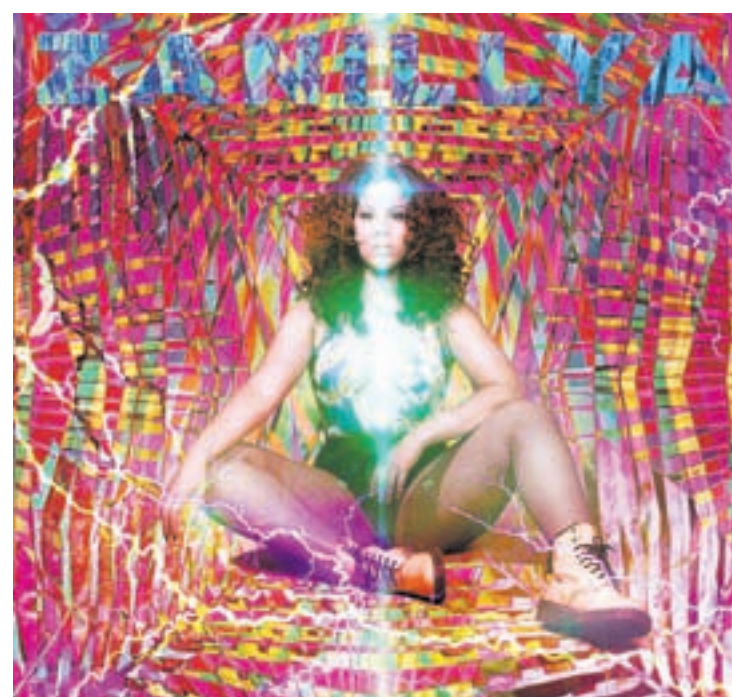
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## Zanillya to debut Electricity and Drums in Aruba

**PALM BEACH** - Zanillya, an international artist with Aruban roots will be releasing her first English EP under the name Electricity and Drums on Monday, August 4th. The EP's first single 'Raise Ya Flag,' was just premiered on select radio stations on her island of Aruba. All of the EP's songs were written by Zanillya and produced by THEprinceOF-beatz, with whom Zanillya has a close working rela-

tionship for the past 4 years. Zanillya reveals that as a contemporary artist she has switched to singing in the English language in 2013, and has been working on more than 50 tracks, since then, searching for her new authentic sound. At the end of a long period of experimentation and creativity, she is proud to present her new music, and who she is today. Base in Rotterdam, Zanillya

was born in Hannover Germany, to an Aruban father and a Macedonian mother. She inherited her love of music from her artistic mother and musical father, also known as the late Bobby Farrell, from megavocal group of the 70s' and 80s' Boney M. Zanillya started to catch the media's attention in 2011, which led to a "Rookie of the Year State Award," nomination and she be-



came the first female MC to win Holland's biggest live performance contest "De Grote Prijs van Nederland," in Best Hip Hop category. Since then she has performed at Noorderslag Eurosonic and was guest on 'De wereld draait door,' TV show. She also visited Giel Beelen at radio 3FM station and was chosen by FHM magazine as 1 of 500 prettiest women in The Netherlands. She recently signed a publishing deal with Imagam Music. Constantly changing and re-inventing her style, Zanillya uses her interest in a wide field of genres to craft what she calls 'Caribbean Grunge.' He bass-oriented songs with tropical influences, freshly fuse dancehall, electronica, lo-fi and hip-hop with the attitude of grunge, which she also calls New Era Pop. In addition to performing and recording, Zanillya is currently student at the Fontys School of Arts, The Rock Academy where she continues to develop her personal talents and skills. She will graduate in 2015 with a Bachelor of Music degree and is excited to line up and tackle many

new projects. The single Raise ya Flag, is the first release of Electricity & Drums, its focus is a woman believing in herself, proud and independent, under all circumstances, enjoying life's up and down journey! Champion, a second single, pays tribute to women's inner strength. As an entertainer, Zanillya delivers a strong live show, with DJ live sampler, horns and backings, peppered with humor, removed from restrictions, limitations or rules, just childlike, playful and fun! While she cherishes the entertainment value of her music she hopes to also inspire young women to excel and spread their wings. The name of her EP suggests her secret recipe, her level of electric energy combined with the drum rhythm, the beat of her life, set by the music producer. Download the EP from: My soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/zanillyamusic> My facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/zanillyamusic> Or my site: [www.zanillya.com](http://www.zanillya.com)

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## You can help Chula and the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary!

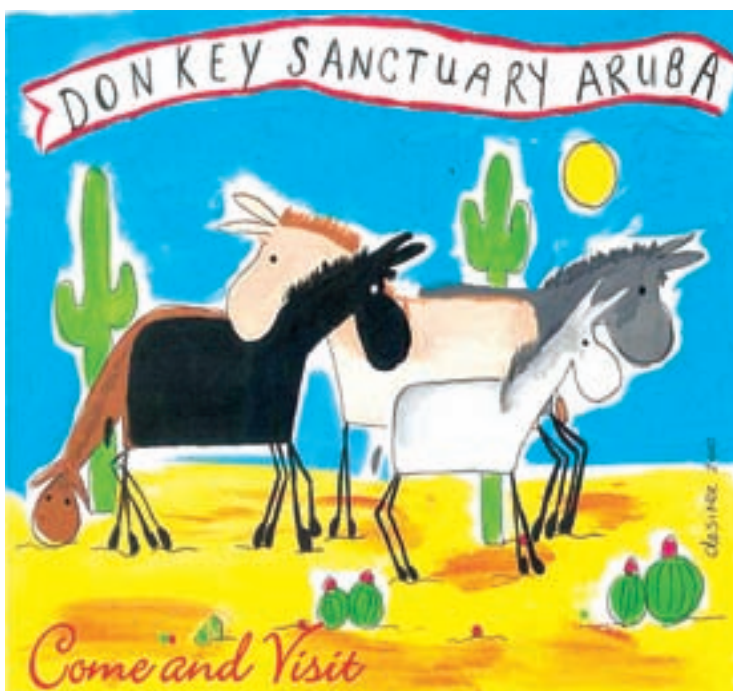
**BRINGAMOS!** - We would like to introduce Chula to you, one of the donkeys that has found a home at the Aruban Donkey Sanctuary. She is still a baby, born at the end of 2012. Her mother Coco came to live at the sanctuary early in 2012; she appeared to be pregnant after ten months. Our volunteers had noticed her rounded form, but they never suspected a pregnancy. Everyone was overjoyed when a cute little donkey was the result: Chula looks adorable with her dark brown fur and white legs. She also has white circles around her eyes. She is a cuddly donkey, who loves attention and petting. So beware: before you know it, she's jumping on your lap!

This beautiful donkey has been provided with a chip, just like all the other donkeys. On the chip is information about the donkey and its medical history. The donkeys at the sanctuary have a lot of friends with whom they can play all day long. And they love living there: they are well-cared for, they are fed and watered and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers for the sanctuary.

The volunteers are trying to cover the various costs with all kinds of activities and

the sale of great donkey memorabilia in the shop. Fortunately, there are also visitors who wish to adopt a donkey, who buy something at the donkey shop or who make a donation. Thus they help support us. Everyone is welcome to visit the sanctuary, which has opening hours from 9 am until 4 pm and in the weekend from 10 am until 3. Entry is free of charge and one can enjoy a soft drink, a cup of coffee or a refreshing ice cream.

The volunteers of the sanctuary are hoping that somebody will adopt this friendly, lovely donkey. Of course the donkey will keep on living at the sanctuary; you only need to pay AWG. 30,- per month for the donkey's keep. With this amount you help support the sanctuary as well as your own donkey. And you will receive a beautiful certificate and a super T-shirt and your name and photo will be posted on our website. So please call the sanctuary at 593-2933; you can also register via the website [www.arubandonkey.org](http://www.arubandonkey.org) or donate money on bank account number 40.03.025 at the Aruba Bank! Just do it! Would you like to follow the donkeys on Facebook: surf to Donkey Sanctuary Aruba please. ☐



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# Loyal Visitors Honored at the Costa Linda Beach Resort



**EAGLE BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly Visitor of Aruba, at the Costa Linda Beach Resort, as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of

the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were Leonel Rodriquez and Patricia Campo of Bogota, Colombia, Stephen and Clara Isabel Duvall of Pearland, Texas, and Luz Maria Heshusius



of Bogota, Colombia. All the honorees are loyal members of the Costa Linda and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and Aruba feels like a second home, the people are like a family

to them and Costa Linda is their home away from home. The certificates were presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Gloria Janga and Miriam Rodriguez representing the Costa Linda Beach Resort. □



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Tiger Woods watches his tee shot on the eighth hole, during the first round of the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament, Thursday, July 31, 2014, in Akron, Ohio.

Associated Press

## Another decent start for Woods at Firestone

DOUG FERGUSON  
AP Golf Writer

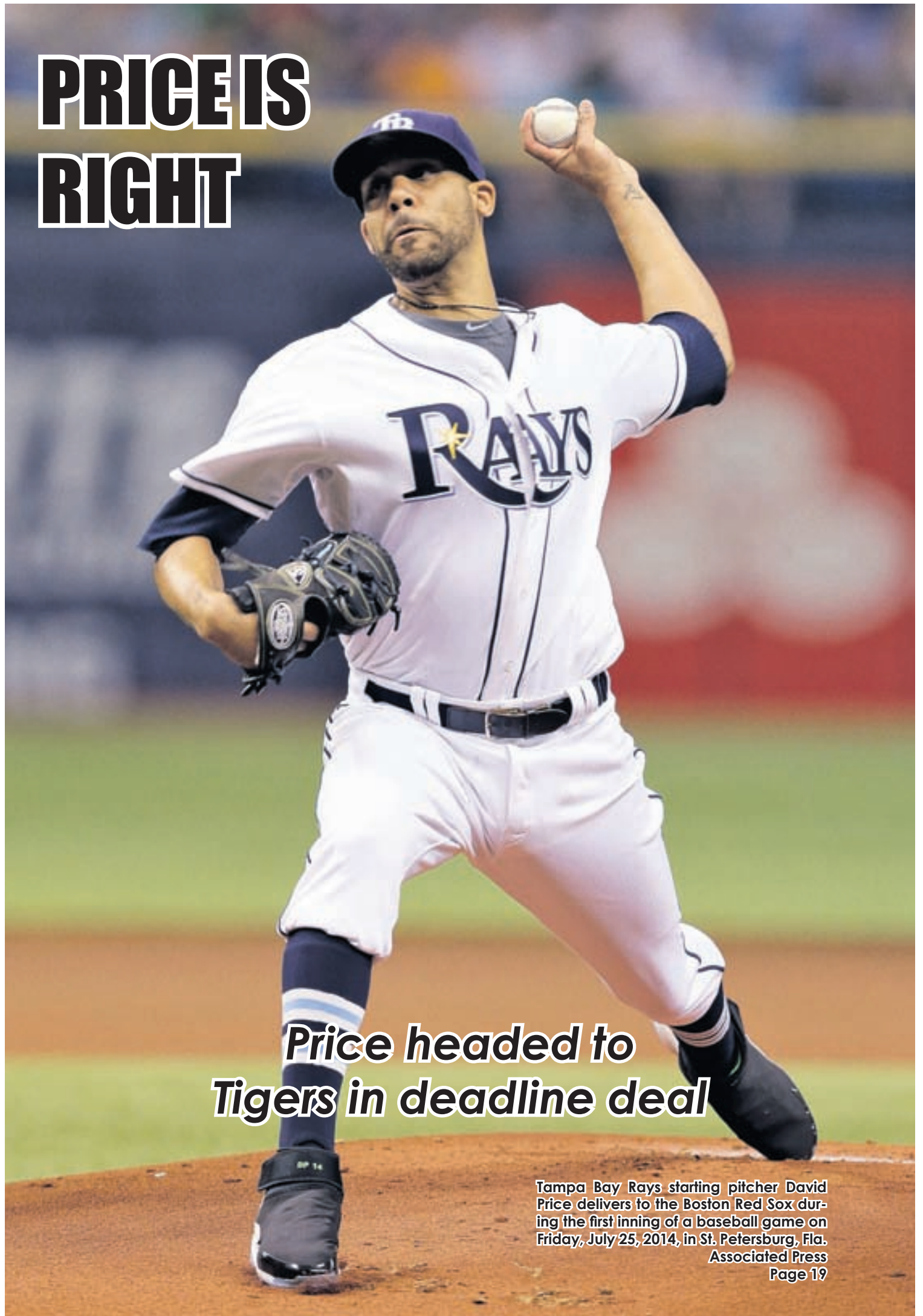
**AKRON, Ohio (AP)** — Tiger Woods made six birdies to account for his mistakes and opened with a 2-under 68 at the Bridgestone Invitational on Thursday, still four shots behind Marc Leishman of Australia, who shot 64 on a perfect day for scoring at Firestone. Woods opened with a 69 at the British Open two weeks ago, only to plunge down the leaderboard the rest of the week at Royal Liverpool.

"I hit a lot of good shots," Woods said. "I dropped shots at three holes out there today (and) got it right back on the very next hole."

For so many players, the opening round of this World Golf Championship felt like either a warmup or an audition for bigger events to follow. Ryan Moore was among three players at 65, a good start for someone looking for one big week to get him on the Ryder Cup team.

Continued on Page 18

# PRICE IS RIGHT



## Price headed to Tigers in deadline deal

Tampa Bay Rays starting pitcher David Price delivers to the Boston Red Sox during the first inning of a baseball game on Friday, July 25, 2014, in St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Associated Press  
Page 19



# Firestone

Continued from Page 17

Two more Ryder Cup hopefuls — Patrick Reed and Francesco Molinari of Italy — were among those another shot back.

British Open champion Rory McIlroy, who next week will chase his second straight major, was among the leaders until not paying attention to packed sand in a bunker that sent him to a double bogey late in his round. He still wound up with a 69.

Leishman has quietly gone about his work in reasonable form, with top 10s recently at Congressional and Royal Liverpool. He had the perfect formula for Firestone, a big golf course where good scores are available by keeping the ball in play.

"I drove the ball well. It makes this course a lot easier when you're on the fairway," Leishman said. "It's pretty tough when you're playing from the rough. Then, I hit my irons really well and was rolling the ball awesome. So it's a pretty good combination for a tough golf course like this, something I can hopefully keep going."

Charl Schwartzel and Jus-



**Marc Leishman, from Australia, hits from a fairway bunker on the ninth hole during the first round of the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament Thursday, July 31, 2014, at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio.**

tin Rose joined Moore one shot out of the lead.

Woods said only a mild breeze and soft conditions from overnight rain allowed for scoring, though he noted that no one went terribly low. The 64 by Leishman seemed like a good score, so maybe Woods was basing that on his own experience at a course where he has won eight times.

Woods twice has shot his career-best 61 at Firestone, including last year on his way to a seven-shot victory. That he managed six birdies was a sign that he

was making putts, even though two of his birdies were tap-ins.

He still had a few wild moments, starting with a three-putt bogey from 10 feet on the opening hole. He hooked his drive so badly on the par-5 second hole that he worried it might not clear the lake on the adjacent third hole. It was far enough left to leave him a good angle with a 5-wood that he put on the green for a two-putt birdie.

His only big mistake was a shot into the trees on the ninth hole. It took him

two shots to get out, and from behind the green he couldn't get up-and-down and made double bogey. Just like two other bogeys in his round, he answered with a birdie with a shot into 6 feet on No. 10.

"I feel like I made some progress," Woods said. "As I said, this is only my seventh round back. So it's just going to take a little time. I'm starting to get in the flow of things. If you look at my iron shots into the holes today, a majority of them were pin-high. So I'm starting to get the feel back in my

Associated Press

hands and get my trajectory under control."

Woods missed three months following back surgery, and the six rounds he has played since returning have not been inspiring, except for that opening round at Hoylake. He needs more rounds like that to remind Ryder Cup captain Tom Watson he would be worth selecting, and to try to extend his season beyond the PGA Championship next week by moving up 90 spots in the FedEx Cup standings to qualify for the playoffs.

Phil Mickelson's biggest struggle was with his health. He didn't arrive in Ohio until Wednesday night because of strep throat, and he opened with a 71.

McIlroy appeared to pick up where he left off in England. He wasn't expecting a hangover from winning his third major and didn't experience one except for his mistake from the bunker on the eighth hole.

"There's still so much to play for," he said. "No. 1 spot is up for grabs. Trying to get myself as far up the FedEx Cup points as possible. I haven't won a World Golf Championship before. Got another major coming up next week. It hasn't been that hard for me to refocus and get back to work." □



## Phelps to compete at U.S. nationals

**PAUL NEWBERRY**  
AP National Writer

Michael Phelps will take on his most grueling program since coming out of retirement, entering four events at next week's U.S. national championships.

The winningest athlete in Olympic history will compete in the 100-meter freestyle, 100 butterfly, 100 freestyle and 200 individual medley at the meet that begins Wednesday in Irvine, California.

"I feel good," Phelps told The Associated Press on

Thursday. "Just staying relaxed is the biggest thing, not putting too much pressure on myself. I'm just going out and continuing what I've been doing throughout the year — just having fun. That's how I've been able to swim my best." The national championships, along with the Pan Pacific Championships in Australia a couple of weeks later, will determine the American team for next year's world championships.

Phelps retired after the London Olympics, having won a record 18 gold medals and 22 medals overall. He had accomplished all his goals and said he had no desire to swim into his 30s. But he began plotting his comeback less than a year later, and began serious training last September.

Since announcing a return to competition in April, the 29-year-old Phelps has competed in four meets. But this will be his most daunting program yet, giving him a chance to gauge just how far he has come in a relatively short period of time. His longtime coach, Bob Bowman, said Phelps has shaken off much of the rustiness in his technique, improving his starts and turns. Conditioning is the biggest question mark, especially as he takes on more events. Phelps is more concerned with his mental approach.

"A couple of races, I've tensed up a little bit. I tried to take it super seriously and I didn't have good success in those races," he said. "Whatever happens, happens." □

**Michael Phelps warms up for the men's 100-meter backstroke at the Bulldog Grand Slam swim meet at the University of Georgia, Saturday, July 12, 2014, in Athens, Ga.**  
Associated Press



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## Price, Lester, Lackey traded in deadline flurry

Baseball fans were still trying to sort out the dizzying deals for postseason aces Jon Lester and John Lackey, Home Run Derby champ Yoenis Cespedes and All-Star shortstop Asdrubal Cabrera when they were treated to a most curious sight Thursday.

In the seventh inning of a tight game at Comerica Park - with the bases loaded, no less - Detroit center fielder Austin Jackson suddenly trotted from his position to the dugout.

He was on his way out of town, too, in a blockbuster, three-team swap that brought former Cy Young winner David Price to the AL Central-leading Tigers. A whopping 18 teams began the day within five games of playoff position, resulting in a dozen deals shortly before Major League Baseball's 4 p.m. EDT trade deadline.

The World Series champion Boston Red Sox, mired in last place, were the most busy.

They sent Lester and outfielder Jonny Gomes to AL West-leading Oakland for Cespedes, traded Lackey to St. Louis, dealt shortstop Stephen Drew to the Yankees and moved pitcher Andrew Miller to Baltimore. The Miami Marlins, often sellers as deadline day approaches, became buyers when they acquired pitcher Jarrod Cosart from Houston in a six-player trade.

Teams can still make trades through Aug. 31 to have players eligible for the postseason, but it becomes more tricky. Now a player must first clear waivers, meaning every club in the majors has a chance to claim him before he can be traded.

All the action off the field Thursday made for great fun for fans, plus some heated up pennant races. A look at the deals, and what they meant:

SEE YA, SAWX

A year after winning their third crown in a decade,

Boston bailed out. The Red Sox picked Oakland as the landing spot for the coveted Lester, then paired up with the team they beat in the World Series last October to swap Lackey for Cardinals pitcher Joe Kelly and outfielder Allen Craig. "It speaks to where we are as a team," Red Sox general manager Ben Cherington said. "There's nothing sort of celebratory about this. These moves are made because, collectively as an organization, we haven't performed well enough, in this year anyway."

**STRAIGHT A'S**  
Looking for its first World Series title since 1989, Oakland kept dealing. After getting pitchers Jeff Samardzija and Jason Hammel from the Cubs in July, the team with the best record in the majors added Lester and outfielders Jonny Gomes and Sam Fuld. The Athletics had one left-over issue: They were set to give away 10,000 T-shirts at



Oakland Athletics' Yoenis Cespedes follows through on a solo home run off a pitch from Texas Rangers starting pitcher Nick Tepesch in the sixth inning of a baseball game on Saturday, July 26, 2014, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated Press

Saturday's game that honored Cespedes, and they plan to hand them out. **PRICE IS RIGHT**

A lot of teams wanted the 28-year-old lefty ace, who now joins fellow Cy Young winners Max Scherzer and Justin Verlander in Motown. In the three-team deal, Jackson went to Seattle

while pitcher Drew Smyly and minor league infielder Willy Adames joined Tampa Bay. Price (11-8, 3.11 ERA) recently won six straight starts, and he isn't eligible for free agency until after the 2015 season, boosting his chances to help bring Detroit its first championship since 1984. □



Real Salt Lake midfielder Javier Morales (11) goes after the ball, along with New York Red Bulls midfielder Eric Alexander (12), in MLS action at Rio Tinto Stadium, in Salt Lake City, Wednesday, July 30, 2014.

Associated Press

## Revolution beat Rapids to end 8-game losing streak

**FOXBOROUGH, Massachusetts (AP)** — Lee Nguyen scored one goal and set another as the New England Revolution beat the Colorado Rapids 3-0 on Wednesday to end an eight-game Major League Soccer losing streak.

New England took its first lead in a match since May 24. When Nguyen's shot inside the box in the 10th

minute deflected off Drew Moor for an own goal.

Colorado's Thomas Piermayr was sent off for his second yellow card in the 74th minute for a rough challenge just outside the box and Nguyen's ensuing free kick cleared the wall and landed in the upper right corner of the net.

Four minutes later, Nguyen sent a pass for Kelyn Rowe

to score. At Washington, Eddie Johnson and Chris Rolfe scored to help D.C. United win its fourth straight game with a 3-0 victory over Toronto FC.

Johnson opened the scoring for United in the eighth minute with his fourth goal of the season — heading home a feed from Perry Kitchen. In the 59th minute. □



## NL Capsules

# Dodgers beat Braves 3-2 for 5th straight win

**The Associated Press**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Matt Kemp singled in the winning run in the bottom of the 10th inning and Zack Greinke struck out a season-high 13 batters as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Atlanta Braves 3-2 on Wednesday for their season-best fifth straight victory.

Kemp scored the Dodgers' first two runs of the game, including his 11th homer leading off the second. Pinch-hitter Justin Turner singled to open the 10th and took second on a wild pitch by David Hale (3-3). Kemp followed with the winning single to left.

J.P. Howell (3-3) got the win in relief, walking two and striking out one in one inning.

The Braves tied the game 2-2 on Justin Upton's home run off closer Kenley Jansen leading off the ninth.

Greinke allowed one run and five hits in eight innings while walking one. He was making his first start at home since June 28.

**GIANTS 7, PIRATES 5**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —



Los Angeles Dodgers' Justin Turner, right, scores to win the game on a single by Matt Kemp as Atlanta Braves catcher Evan Gattis takes a late throw during the 10th inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, July 30, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Reliever Jean Machi and San Francisco took advantage of a huge baserunning blunder by Pittsburgh, tagging out two runners who wandered away on the same play and beating the Pirates to end a six-game losing streak.

Reliever Jean Machi and the San Francisco Giants

took advantage of a huge baserunning blunder by Pittsburgh, tagging out two runners who wandered away on the same play and beating the Pirates 7-5 Wednesday to end a six-game losing streak.

San Francisco stopped a skid that matched its longest of the season, and

avoided the club's first winless homestand of at least seven games in the 15-year history of AT&T Park.

The Pirates, who had won three in a row, led 5-4 in the sixth when Chris Stewart drew a one-out walk with runners on second and third.

Machi (6-0) got the ball

back from the catcher and noticed Travis Snider had left second base, thinking it was a bases-loaded walk. Machi threw to short-stop Brandon Crawford to trap Snider in a rundown. Crawford tagged out Snider, then threw to Machi to catch Gaby Sanchez in a rundown when he broke home from third. Machi tossed back to third baseman Pablo Sandoval for the tag.

Justin Wilson (3-2) took the loss. Santiago Casilla, San Francisco's fifth reliever after Tim Lincecum's short start, earned his eighth save in 11 chances.

**ROCKIES 6, CUBS 4**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Brandon Barnes hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the 10th inning as the Colorado Rockies beat the Chicago Cubs.

Colorado loaded the bases on two walks and Michael McKenry's third hit of the game before Barnes singled with one out against Wesley Wright (0-2). Drew Stubbs then scored on a wild pitch, helping the Rockies stop a three-game slide.

**Associated Press**



Cleveland Indians starting pitcher Corey Kluber delivers in the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Seattle Mariners Wednesday, July 30, 2014, in Cleveland. Kluber pitched nine innings and gave up three hits. The Indians defeated the Mariners 2-0.

**Associated Press**

## AL Capsules

# Kluber outpitches Felix Hernandez in 2-0 win

**The Associated Press**

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — Corey Kluber pitched a three-hitter for his first career shutout, outdueling Felix Hernandez and leading the Cleveland Indians over Seattle.

Kluber (11-6) gave three singles, struck out eight and walked none.

Hernandez (11-3) didn't allow a runner until Carlos Santana drew a leadoff walk in the fifth. Yan Gomes delivered a two-run double later in the inning.

Hernandez gave up four hits in seven innings. He has allowed two runs or fewer and pitched at least seven innings in 14 consecutive starts, a major league re-

cord. Kluber's performance came hours after the Indians traded opening-day starter Justin Masterson to St. Louis.

**BREWERS 5, RAYS 0**

**ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP)** — Yovani Gallardo gave up four hits in seven innings and Martin Maldonado equaled a career high with four RBIs as the NL Central-leading Milwaukee Brewers avoided a three-game sweep by beating David Price and Tampa Bay

Gallardo (6-5) retired 13 in a row at one point.

Price (11-8), the subject of trade speculation heading into Thursday's deadline for

non-waiver deals, had his bid to win a team-record seventh consecutive start dashed after allowing four runs and seven hits over seven innings.

**ORIOLES 4, ANGELS 3**

**BALTIMORE (AP)** — Kevin Gausman pitched seven innings of three-hit ball and Adam Jones homered as the Baltimore Orioles beat the Los Angeles Angels for their seventh win in nine games.

Gausman (5-3) retired his first 14 batters he faced. Darren O'Day struck out two in a perfect eighth and Zach Britton gave up a single in the ninth before earning his 21st save.





In this April 15, 2012, file photo, referee Violet Palmer explains a call to Orlando Magic head coach Stan Van Gundy, not shown, as Cleveland Cavaliers' Lester Hudson (14) looks on during an NBA basketball game in Cleveland.

Associated Press

## NBA ref Violet

# Palmer to marry longtime partner

DAN GELSTON  
AP Sports Writer

Violet Palmer made her biggest call yet: The NBA referee will marry her partner of 20 years on Friday.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Palmer says she came out to her fellow NBA referees in 2007. She has not tried to keep her sexuality a secret from the league since that time.

"This is actually the big formal coming out," Palmer said. "We are saying to the world, to everyone, here's my wife of 20 years. This is the big coming out."

Palmer will marry celebrity hair stylist Tanya Stine in Los Angeles. The ceremony will be officiated by "Basketball Wives LA" star Tanya Young Williams, the ex-wife of former NBA All-Star Jayson Williams.

Palmer broke barriers in 1997 when she became the first female to referee an NBA game. Under scrutiny from her first tipoff, Palmer instantly proved she could withstand the grumbling and ref baiting that comes with forging a career in a men's game. She was no publicity gimmick and has since officiated postseason games and the 2014 All-Star Game over a lengthy and varied career that included stints at the college level and WNBA.

Palmer said she had been open about her sexual orientation in the NBA for years. There was never a formal public coming out because she didn't want it to overshadow her work blowing the whistle on every star from Shaq to LeBron.

"I always wanted people to just look at my work," she said in a phone interview. "Not look at my personal life, not look at my sexual preference. That doesn't matter. I just wanted people to say, 'Wow, she is a pretty damn good referee.'"

The 50-year-old Palmer said she didn't initially reveal her sexuality to the NBA while working her way through the ranks, but eventually came out to her fellow referees about dating Stine.

"The guys that I was really close to knew who she was," Palmer said. "But there was half the staff that didn't know. But I can honestly say, as far as the NBA knew, she was my domestic partner. For me to verbally come out to the 60 guys I work with, I didn't do that until 10 years (into my career)." Despite the additional scrutiny likely heaped on a gay referee, Palmer said she believed she still would have been hired by the NBA in 1997 had she said she was gay.

# Ginobili will not play for Argentina at World Cup

JON KRAWCZYNSKI  
AP Basketball Writer

Manu Ginobili walked off the court in June an NBA champion.

The toll that pursuit took on his 37-year-old body is now preventing him from the only team he loves more than the San Antonio Spurs. Ginobili will not play for Argentina at the FIBA World Cup because of a stress fracture in his right leg that has bothered the Spurs guard since the playoffs.

The Argentine Basketball Federation announced the decision on Thursday, prompting Ginobili to post a tweet in Spanish saying he was "so sorry" that he couldn't compete with his beloved national team. The World Cup will be played starting Aug. 30 in Spain, and Ginobili's loss is a big blow for Argentina's chances.

Ginobili played through the injury while helping the Spurs beat the Miami Heat in the NBA Finals. He has long relished international competition, but the San Antonio Express-News first reported earlier this week that the Spurs requested Ginobili not play in Spain because of the lingering issue.

The Spurs have good reason to be concerned.

In 2008, Ginobili injured his ankle in the playoffs and then played for Argentina in the Olympics. In Beijing, Ginobili did further damage to the ankle that ultimately required surgery and contributed to an injury plagued 2008-09 NBA season. Ginobili missed the playoffs that season and



Spurs guard Manu Ginobili watches the Argentina national basketball team practice, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Wednesday, July 30, 2014.

Associated Press

the Spurs were defeated in the first round by Dallas.

Ginobili also had a sub-par season in 2012-13 after playing all summer long for Argentina in the London Olympics.

He had some vintage moments in the finals against the Heat in June, including a dunk over Heat star Chris Bosh in the first half of Game 5 that sent the home crowd into a frenzy and the Spurs rolling toward their fifth championship.

But he was playing through

pain, and the injury did not heal enough for Ginobili to be able to compete in Spain.

Skippping the World Cup will help Ginobili recover and be ready for next season with the Spurs, but it has to be a tough pill swallow for the proud veteran.

Ginobili has played internationally for Argentina since 1998, including the nation's thrilling victory over the Americans en route to winning the gold medal in the 2004 Olympics.

## NBA to put Twitter handle on ball in 2014-15

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA is adding its Twitter handle to its official game ball for next season.

The league announced the change on Thursday. The handle @NBA will be added to the left of the

league's logo, making it the first game ball to have it in any of the four major pro sports in North America. The NBA's Twitter account has 10.7 million followers, by far the most when compared to the NFL, MLB and

NHL. Unlike a few years back when the league tried to introduce a new synthetic leather game ball, the Spalding ball's composition will not change. The league quickly abandoned the synthetic ball.



# Serena Williams wins in her return at Stanford

**RICK EYMER**

**Associated Press**

**STANFORD, California (AP)**

— Top-ranked Serena Williams won in her first match since defaulting in a doubles match with sister Venus at Wimbledon, beating Karolina Pliskova 7-5, 6-2 on Wednesday in the second round of the Bank of the West Classic.

At Wimbledon, Williams tried to play through a viral infection that caused her to lose her equilibrium during the doubles match. On Wednesday night, encouraged by a large crowd, Williams fought through a tough first set before she found her legs and took control of the match with a big second set.

"I thought I played well," Williams said. "I'm on the right path, I'm excited and I'm looking forward to my next match."

In the quarterfinals, Williams will meet the winner of Thursday's match between fifth-seeded Ana Ivanovic and U.S. qualifier Carol Zhao.

Williams casually deflected questions about her health, preferring to bring the conversation into the present. "I'm still taking it a match at a time," she said. "It worked out. I was feeling



Serena Williams returns the ball during the second set of her match against Karolina Pliskova in the Bank of the West Classic Tennis Tournament, Wednesday, July 30, 2014, in Stanford, Calif.

**Associated Press**

fine. I made some silly errors early because I was not on my toes enough."

Pliskova managed to hold her serve most of the first set but did not have an answer once Williams found her own serve.

"I knew she's a player that is tough to break so it was important to me to be super focused on my serve," Williams said. "She served well and I tried to hang in there and get some break points."

She finally managed to reach break point in the

12th game and took control from there. She was successful on all three break points she had.

Williams took some time off after Wimbledon and vacationed in Croatia before returning to the U.S. for the hardcourt season. She said she has been working hard in preparation for a run at the U.S. Open.

Earlier, Varvara Lepchenko beat second-seeded Angelika Radwanska 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 to advance to the quarterfinals.

Lepchenko beat the fifth-

ranked Radwanska for the first time in six meetings, edging a top-10 player for only the third time in 24 matches. Radwanska, the runner-up last year, became the highest seeded player to fall in the tournament. The match was good," Radwanska said. "I wasn't serving enough." Lepchenko will face Sachia Vickery, the American qualifier who beat Monica Puig 6-7 (4), 6-2, 6-1 to reach her first career WTA Tour quarterfinal. Vickery also won two straight in

the main draw for the first time. Her only previous victory came at last year's U.S. Open in her WTA main draw debut.

Also, eighth-seeded Andrea Petkovic beat teenage qualifier Naomi Osaka, 6-2, 6-2. Petkovic will next meet the winner of Thursday night's match between Venus Williams and Victoria Azarenka.

"It was so weird," Petkovic said. "She's 16 and obviously very talented. If I played solid I knew I had a good shot." □

## Tennis star Wozniacki to run NYC Marathon

**RACHEL COHEN**

**AP Sports Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)**

— Caroline Wozniacki always feels confident she can outrun her opponent on the tennis court. The former world No. 1 believes that with a bit more training, she can cover 26.2 miles (42 kilometers). Wozniacki plans to play a full tournament schedule this autumn while fitting in time to train for the New York City Marathon. She typically runs for 30-40 minutes a day as part of workouts for tennis, and hopes that one longer session per week of an hour or more can get her through the

Nov. 2 race.

And, no, she's not seeking this challenge in an attempt to distract herself from her personal life, Wozniacki insisted. Golfer Rory McIlroy broke off their engagement in late May, less than a month before Wozniacki decided to run a marathon.

"Tennis helped me just get through the tough times," Wozniacki said in Manhattan on Thursday. "Now I'm just feeling happy and I wanted to do something good for others. I think that this had nothing really to do with my personal life. It was something I was pas-

sionate about."

She had long wanted to run a marathon, and looking at the tournament schedule, she determined it was doable.

About a week before Wimbledon, she asked her manager to look up charities she could raise money for. Wozniacki will represent Team for Kids, which helps fund NYC Marathon organizer New York Road Runners' youth programs.

"People ask me, 'Why don't you just run a 5K or 10K?' I'm like, 'Well, I do that all the time, so it wouldn't really be a challenge,'" she said. "This is really something I



In this June 23, 2014 file photo, Caroline Wozniacki, of Denmark, watches a return to Shahar Peer of Israel during their first round match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London.

**Associated Press**

need to put my mind to." She's never entered a road race, and the longest distance she's ever run is 18 kilometers, which is a bit less than a half-marathon. Wozniacki hopes to qualify

for the WTA Finals, which run from Oct. 20-26 in Singapore, ending just a week before the marathon. She's 17th in the standings, though, with only the top eight players taking part. □



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## Facebook's Internet.org expands in Zambia

**BARBARA ORTUTAY**  
**AP Technology Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Facebook's Internet.org project is taking another step toward its goal of bringing the Internet to people who are not yet online, launching an app Thursday in Zambia.

The Internet.org app will give subscribers of Zambia's Airtel phone company access to a set of basic Internet services for free. Users of the app won't incur the data charges that can be prohibitive for many people in developing nations.

Facebook has already been working with mobile operators around the world to offer its own service free of charge to phone subscribers — think of it as a gateway to the rest of the Internet.

Online services accessible through the app range from AccuWeather to Wiki-

pedia, a job search site as well as a breadth of health information. Facebook's own app, along with its Messenger service, is also included, as is Google search, although charges apply if people click on search results.

The app works on Android phones as well as the simple "feature phones" that are used by the majority of people in Zambia, said Guy Rosen, product management director at Internet.org.

If users click on a link that takes them outside of the 13 predetermined services, they will get a warning that they may incur data charges. One thing missing from the features is email. Many people who are new to the Internet in developing nations don't use email, opting to use messaging apps or social media sites instead.

"Zambia is a country with 15 percent Internet penetration," Rosen said, add-



In this July 24, 2014 file photo, Facebook staff members attend the opening ceremony of their new office in Hong Kong.

Associated Press

ing that this makes for a "huge amount of people that we can connect." Zambia's population is about 15 million. The app will spread to additional countries down the line, but Rosen did not say which ones.

Internet.org estimates that about 80 percent of the world's population that isn't online lives at least within basic 2G cellphone range. As such, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has said that making connectivity affordable and convincing

people that the Internet is something they need are bigger hurdles to connecting people than "satellites or balloons." That said, Facebook has also acquired a satellite company, just to ensure all its bases are covered.

## Twitter: Govt. requests for user data increased

**BARBARA ORTUTAY**  
**AP Technology Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Twitter said government requests for user data grew sharply in the past six months as more countries asked for a greater amount of information about users. More than half of the requests came from the United States, as has been the case since Twitter began issuing its "transparency report" in 2012. Typically, the requests are part of criminal investigations. To obtain non-public information about users — such as email addresses — law en-

forcement agencies have to get a subpoena or court order. Requests for the contents of communications — such as direct messages or non-public tweets — require a search warrant. The report does not include national security requests because Twitter, along with other Internet companies, has been prohibited from disclosing information on such requests. Twitter, along with other Internet companies, has been pushing for the ability to publish more information about national security orders. San Francisco-based Twit-

ter Inc. said in a blog post Thursday that it received 2,058 requests from 54 countries in the first six months of the year, including from eight countries that had not previously submitted requests. Twitter produced at least "some information" that the governments asked for in 52 percent of cases worldwide and in 72 percent of requests coming from the U.S. In the last six months of 2013, the short messaging service received 1,410 requests, as has been the case since Twitter began

issuing its "transparency report" in 2012. Most Twitter users live outside the U.S. In addition to account information queries, Twitter said it also received 432 requests to remove content, up 15 percent from 377 in the last six months of 2013. The number of copyright notices Twitter received also increased, by 38 percent to 9,199 compared with the second half of last year. Other companies, including Google Inc., Apple Inc., Microsoft Corp., Facebook Inc. and Yahoo Inc., also release similar reports on

government requests in recent years.





# Wall Street plunges, wiping out July's gains

**STEVE ROTHWELL**  
**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — For investors, there were few havens on Thursday. The stock market had its worst one-day drop since February, driven down by a confluence of worries, from weak company earnings to the looming end of stimulus from the Federal Reserve. But it wasn't just stocks that suffered; oil fell to its lowest level since March, gold

reporting results or forecasts that disappointed investors. The stock market has been on a bull run for more than five years, with the most recent leg of that surge pushing the Standard & Poor's 500 index to an all-time high a week ago. Investors are now getting concerned that stocks may have climbed too far and reflect too much optimism on the outlook for growth. "We've been on a strong

since April 10. The drop pushed the index to its first monthly loss since January. The Dow Jones industrial average plunged 317.06 points, or 1.9 percent, to 16,563.30. The Nasdaq composite fell 93.13 points, or 2.1 percent, to 4,369.77. The Russell 2000, an index of small company stocks, plunged 26.50 points, or 2.3 percent, to 1,120.07. Exxon Mobil stock fell \$4.31, or 4.2 percent, to \$98.94

for growth in Europe as tensions escalate between the European Union and Russia after the downing of a passenger plane over Ukraine. The European Union on Thursday revealed the details of broad economic sanctions against Russia. The main driver behind Thursday's sell-off was a reassessment of the outlook for interest rates in the U.S. said Paul Zemsky, chief investment officer of Multi-Asset Strategies and Solutions at Voya Investment Management.

Fed policymakers said the central bank would make further cuts to its monthly bond purchases, a program that is intended to keep long-term interest rates low and encourage borrowing and spending. Policy makers are also becoming more optimistic about the outlook for the U.S. economy after growth expanded by a better-than-expected 4 percent in the second quarter.

"We're closer to the first move higher in interest rates," said Zemsky. "And there's definitely a camp that believes that the only reason that were at these levels is because the Fed has kept the rates at zero." Despite Thursday's weak earnings reports, the overall outlook for company profits is still strong, said Zemsky. Company earnings are still at record levels, and expected to grow by 8.6 percent in the second quarter, according to data from S&P Capital IQ. That compares to growth of 4.9 percent in the same period a year ago and 3.4 percent growth in the first three months of this year. □

## Panasonic, Tesla to manufacture batteries in U.S.

**YURI KAGEYAMA**  
**AP Business Writer**

**TOKYO (AP)** — American electric car maker Tesla Motors Inc. is teaming up with Japanese electronics company Panasonic Corp. to build a battery manufacturing plant in the U.S. expected to create 6,500 jobs.

The companies announced the deal Thursday, but they did not say where in the U.S. the so-called "gigafactory," or large-scale plant, will be built. Tesla has said that Nevada, Arizona, Texas, New Mexico and California are in the running.

The plant will produce cells, modules and packs for Tesla's electric vehicles and for the stationary energy storage market, employing 6,500 people by 2020.

Under the agreement, Tesla, based in Palo Alto, California, will prepare, provide and manage the land and buildings, while Osaka-based Panasonic will manufacture and supply the lithium-ion battery cells and invest in equipment. Tesla CEO Elon Musk has said the factory will help Tesla reduce its battery costs by 30 percent. Tesla needs cheaper batteries in order to produce its mass-market Model 3, an electric car it's developing that would cost around \$30,000. Tesla hopes to have the Model 3 on the road by 2017. The company's only current vehicle, the Model S sedan, starts at \$70,000.

"The Gigafactory represents a fundamental change in the way large-scale battery production can be realized," said Tesla Chief Technical Officer and co-founder JB Straubel, referring to the cost reductions.

Sales of zero-emission electric vehicles account for less than 1 percent of the global auto market. But worries about global warming and more stringent emissions regulations in many countries are expected to boost sales of electric and other green vehicles. □



Trader Joseph Lawler, and specialist John O'hara, foreground left and right, work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The stock market had its worst one-day drop since February, driven down by a confluence of worries, from weak company earnings to the looming end of stimulus from the Federal Reserve.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

dropped and even Treasury notes edged lower. Stocks started the day lower after a dose of bad earnings news, and the losses accelerated throughout the day.

Whole Foods Market and Exxon Mobil were among companies that fell after

run," said Jerry Braakman, chief investment officer at First American Trust. "There's just more concern that stock valuations are rich compared to historical norms."

The S&P 500 dropped 39.40 points, or 2 percent, to 1,930.67, its biggest loss

after the energy company said that oil and gas production slipped 6 percent, disappointing analysts. The decline was driven by the expiration of rights to a field in Abu Dhabi and natural field declines.

Investors are also concerned about the outlook

## MasterCard 2Q profit rises on volume growth

**PURCHASE, N.Y. (AP)** — MasterCard's second-quarter net income climbed 9.8 percent as it benefited from volume growth and handled more transactions in the period.

The company's results topped analysts' estimates. Shares rose in premarket trading on Thursday. MasterCard Inc. is the

world's second-largest processor of debit and credit card payments. Like its bigger rival, Visa Inc., it benefits from heightened consumer spending.

The company, which is based in Purchase, New York, earned \$931 million, or 80 cents per share, for the three months ended June 30. That's up from \$848 mil-

lion, or 70 cents per share, a year earlier.

The average estimate of analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for earnings of 77 cents per share.

Revenue rose 13 percent to \$2.38 billion from \$2.1 billion, beating Wall Street's forecast of \$2.3 billion. The revenue performance

were somewhat offset by an increase in rebates and incentives.

Worldwide purchase volume climbed 13 percent to \$821 billion, while processed transactions increased 12 percent to 10.6 billion.

Mastercard's stock gained \$1.34 to \$77.25 before the market opened Thursday. □



# Exxon Mobil's profit surges, but production slips

**JONATHAN FAHEY**

**AP Energy Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Exxon Mobil's net income rose 28 percent in the second quarter on a sale of Asian assets and higher oil prices, but oil and gas production slipped a disappointing 6 percent.

Exxon reported net income of \$8.78 billion in for the second quarter Thursday, on revenue of \$111.65 billion.

Last year during the same period, the company earned \$6.86 billion on sales of \$106.67 billion.

On a per-share basis, Exxon earned \$2.05, up from \$1.55

last year. The average estimate of analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for profit of \$1.91 per share, but that estimate does not include the benefit from the Asian asset sale.

Exxon, based in Irving, Texas, does not provide a breakdown of its adjusted results excluding one-time events such as asset sales. Exxon's sale of power and utility assets in Hong Kong helped increase its earnings by \$1.2 billion.

Exxon also benefited from higher oil prices in the quarter, both in the U.S. and abroad. In the U.S.,

Exxon sold oil for an average of \$98.55 per barrel, up from \$93.18 per barrel in last year's second quarter. Outside of the U.S., oil sold for \$103.72, up from \$101.54 last year.

But the asset sale and higher oil prices masked a continuing decline in oil and gas production at Exxon. Production fell to 3.84 million barrels of oil and gas per day from 4.15 million barrels last year.

The decline was driven by the expiration of rights to a field in Abu Dhabi, low natural gas demand in Europe, and natural field declines. Exxon's production has

been steadily shrinking, and it is a continuing concern for investors.

"Production volumes were weaker than anticipated," said Brian Youngberg, an analyst at Edward Jones. "Declining production continues to be a problem for the company."

On a conference call with investors, Exxon's investor relations chief David Rosenthal said despite the declines the company remains on schedule to meet its output targets for the year thanks to higher-than-expected oil production in the U.S., rising oil production at a Canadian oil

sands project and liquefied natural gas production out of a new project in Papua New Guinea.

Exxon did not say whether increased U.S. economic sanctions against Russia would affect its ability to proceed on schedule on its extensive joint operations with the Russian state-owned oil company Rosneft.

"We are waiting for further details on the sanctions in order to better understand how we need to comply," Rosenthal said.

Exxon Mobil Corp. shares were down \$3.11 to \$100.14 in afternoon trading. □

# Kellogg's sales hurt as dieters drop Special K cereal

**CANDICE CHOI**

**AP Food Industry Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Kellogg's cereal sales are struggling, in part because Special K is falling out of fashion with dieters. The company, based in Battle Creek, Michigan, said Thursday that its profit fell 16 percent in the second quarter as its flagship cereal unit continued to suffer. Cereal sales in the U.S. have been sluggish for some time now, given the ever-expanding number of breakfast options including Greek yogurt, egg sandwiches and even waffle tacos from fast-food chains. But Kellogg is also dealing with problems specific to some of its most popular brands. The movement away from calorie counting in the dieting world, for instance, has hurt Special



Kellogg's Special K cereals are seen on display at a market in Palo Alto, Calif. Kellogg's cereal sales are struggling, in part because Special K is falling out of fashion with dieters. The company, based in Battle Creek, Michigan, on Thursday, July 31, 2014 said that its profit fell 16 percent in the second quarter as its flagship cereal unit continued to suffer.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

K, which over the years has expanded to include snack bars, crackers and frozen waffles. The main selling point for those products has traditionally been that they're relatively low in calories. In a phone interview, Kellogg CEO John Bryant noted that people are now more interested in foods that provide nutritional benefits, rather than those that simply keep their calorie counts down. It's why Kellogg has been getting rid of some of its 100-calorie products.

"There's a shift in consumer expectations," Bryant said. To cater to those changing tastes, Special K has already been rolling out new products, including an instant hot cereal that includes grains such as quinoa. □

# Iliad of France makes surprise bid for T-Mobile US

**PETER SVENSSON**

**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — T-Mobile US Inc., the most eligible company in the U.S. wireless industry, has another suitor on its hands. Upstart French telecom company Iliad SA on Thursday said it has offered \$15 billion for a majority stake.

Iliad is injecting itself into the courtship of T-Mobile, the fourth-largest US cell-phone carrier, and Sprint Corp., the No. 3. Sprint has

reportedly been in talks with T-Mobile for months, but no deal has been announced. Analysts believe U.S. regulators are likely to block the T-Mobile/Sprint pairing due to concerns that it would reduce competition and thus raise prices for consumers.

Iliad is much smaller than T-Mobile US, and it doesn't have the financial might to buy the whole company. It's offering \$15 billion in cash for 57 percent of T-

Mobile US, at \$33 per share. That's less than Sprint's reported offer of around \$40 per share.

Iliad, however, claims that the shares it doesn't buy will be worth \$40.50 each thanks to "synergies" between Iliad and T-Mobile, indicating that it thinks the combined business will be able to expand more rapidly or cut costs. However, cross-border deals in telecommunications rarely yield substantive synergies.

T-Mobile confirmed that it received Iliad's proposal and said that it will have no further comment. Iliad said it did not have a response from T-Mobile's board.

T-Mobile shares jumped \$2.07, or 6.7 percent, to \$33.01 after Iliad's announcement, indicating that investors believe there's some chance of an improved offer, either from Iliad or Sprint. The stock started moving up before the announcement, as The

Wall Street Journal reported some details of the offer.

T-Mobile US is controlled by Deutsche Telekom AG of Germany, which owns 67 percent of the stock. A similar portion of Sprint's stock is owned by Softbank Corp. of Japan.

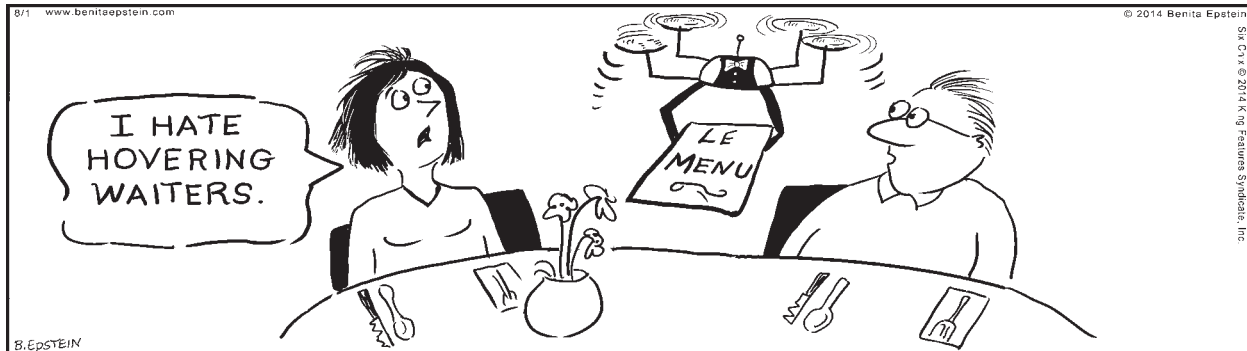
Deutsche Telekom has tired of owning T-Mobile US. In 2011, it accepted a \$39 billion offer from AT&T Inc., the No. 2 U.S. carrier. That deal was scotched by U.S. regulators. □



Mutts



6 Chix



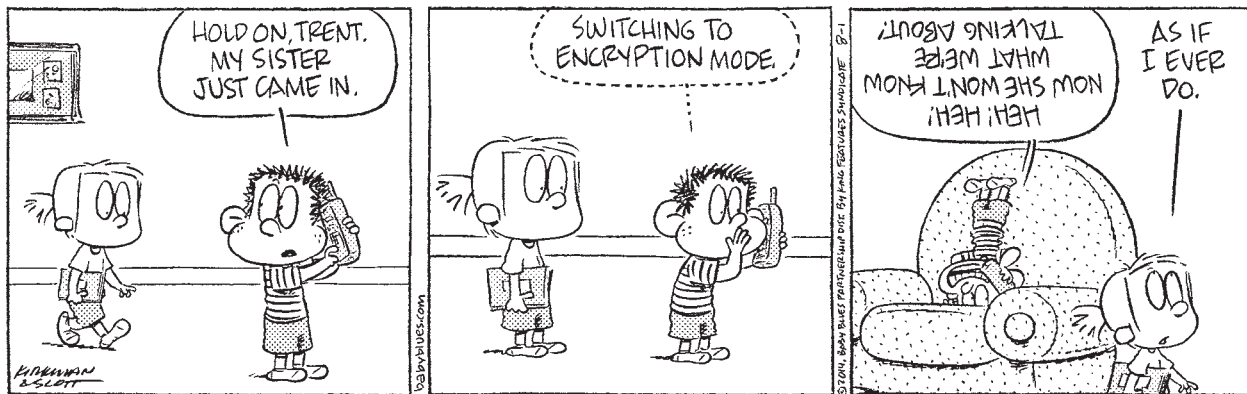
Blondie



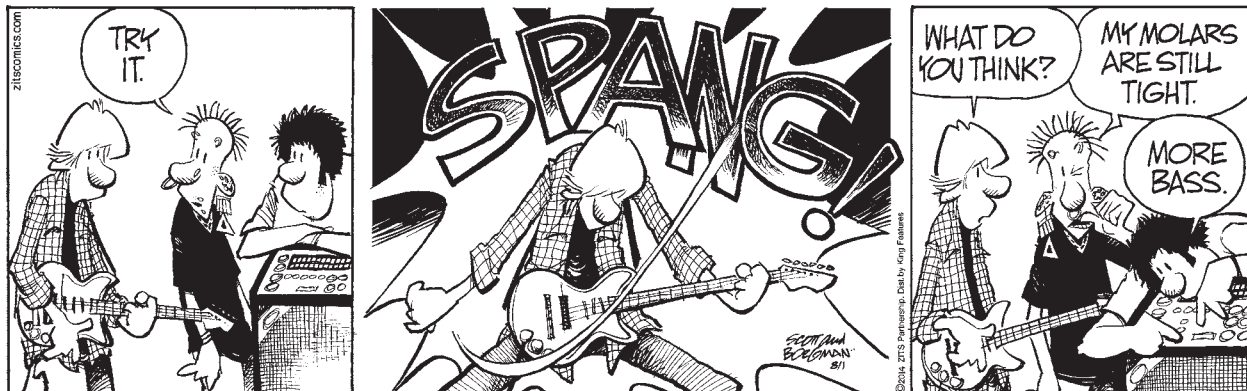
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			2	6				
1	2						4	3
		4		7		5		
4								6
		1				8		
7								4
		9		5		6		
8	3						2	1
			3	9				

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

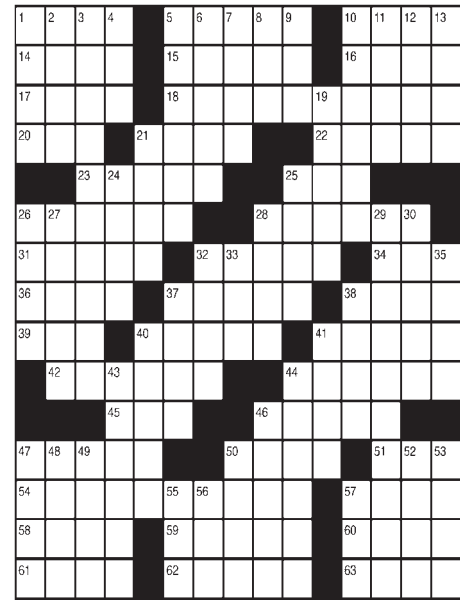
7	6	4	9	1	8	5	2	3
8	5	3	2	4	7	9	6	1
1	9	2	3	6	5	8	7	4
6	2	1	5	7	4	3	9	8
9	3	5	8	2	1	6	4	7
4	8	7	6	3	9	2	1	5
3	7	6	4	5	2	1	8	9
2	4	9	1	8	3	7	5	6
5	1	8	7	9	6	4	3	2

ACROSS

- Cover a present with gift paper
- Numerical comparison
- Qualified
- Frau's husband
- Decorate
- Satisfy to excess
- Bump \_\_\_; meet unexpectedly
- Nervous wreck
- Taro root paste
- Uses a straw
- Hicks; rustics
- \_\_\_ mignon; beef entrée
- "That \_\_\_ then; this is now"
- Costs
- Most modern
- Ran fast
- Take illegally
- That boy
- Gung ho
- Piece of asparagus
- "Over hill, over \_\_\_, we will hit the dusty..."
- \_\_\_ culpa; guilty one's phrase
- Meager
- Animal with a hump or two
- Peruvian pack animals
- Most rational
- VP \_\_\_ Quayle
- Tribal leader
- Passion
- Three-\_\_\_ said
- Recipe verb
- Buttery cookie from Scotland
- Farmhand unit
- Singer Seeger
- Run after
- Table extender
- Talk back
- Like most capital roofs
- Uplight

DOWN

- Mixer speed



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/1/14

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

ABASH	AJAR	OATS
CACHE	PALE	BLAH
TIMER	AGED	SAKE
STEAMERS	SEEMED	
RANT	REASONS	
DOESNT	LIARS	
IVY	SEOUL	LEAFY
VEER	RACER	DIRE
9 3/7 and 4/7		
ENDED	RISER	MEN
PACED	CEASES	
SPARRER	WAGE	
EERIER	SEPARATE	
AKIN	IDLE	TIBIA
LOST	SOAP	TALES
SEES	ESPY	ALTER

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8/1/14

- Read over quickly
- Biting reptiles
- Copenhagener
- TV's Perlman
- Intelligent
- Specks
- Abel's brother
- Sun's ray
- Worships
- Abel's brother
- Haul behind
- Protected from the sun
- Refuse to obey
- Discontinue
- A-E connection
- Greek letter
- Stein contents



## US Financial Front

Continued from Page 7

That helps explain the nagging discontent that some people feel about the economy even as the unemployment rate has sunk from a peak of 10 percent in 2009. Many Americans have heard about the economy's steady recovery without feeling they've benefited from it.

A review by Wells Fargo found that after-tax income fell for the bottom 20 percent of earners and barely rose for the next-highest 20 percent during the recovery.

"Wages are just not keeping up," said Christine Owens, executive director of the National Employment Law Project. "We don't have an economy that is as robust as we need it to be."

### FEWER FULL-TIME JOBS:

Finding a steady full-time job has become harder. There are 27.4 million part-time jobs, representing 18.8 percent of jobs in the U.S. economy, according to the Labor Department. Before the recession, 16.5 percent of all jobs were part time.

Some of this increase is due to the still-sluggish recovery: Employers want to cut costs and payrolls by limiting their workers to fewer than 35 hours a week. But the trend might also reflect a lasting shift among restaurants and coffee shops, said John Silvia, chief economist at Wells Fargo.

"A lot of companies have figured out that they didn't need employees to sell coffee between 2 and 4 p.m. that nobody is buying," Silvia said.

**EMPLOYERS SLOW TO HIRE:** The "Help Wanted" signs are out: There were 4.6 million available jobs in May, according to government data, the most in seven

years and 20 percent more than a year ago. Yet not enough of those jobs are being filled.

Steven Davis, an economist at the University of Chicago, and two colleagues calculated that it took an average of more than 25 days for employers to fill a vacant job in May. That was up from an average of 22.5 days last year and is the longest such figure in the 13 years that the data has been tracked.

That suggests a mismatch in the job market: The unemployed might not have the skills companies want for the available jobs. Or businesses might not be offering enough pay or trying hard enough to fill the jobs.

**BEHIND ON MORTGAGES:** Whatever wealth most Americans have is mainly tied up in their homes. But roughly seven years after the housing bust, owning a home has still been a bad investment for many.

Nearly 37 percent of mortgage holders were "effectively underwater" through the first three months of 2014, according to the real estate firm Zillow. That means they either owe

more than their homes are worth or a sale wouldn't generate enough money to cover the closing costs and down payment for a new home.

Zillow estimates that average home prices nationally won't regain their peak until 2017. For the Baltimore area, it could take until 2024. For Chicago and Kansas City, 2026. Minnesota's Twin Cities aren't expected to fully recover until 2028, more than two decades after the housing bust struck.

### POLITICALLY SHAPED VIEWS:

How people feel about President Barack Obama appears to influence their views of the economy. Republicans are overwhelmingly pessimistic, Democrats optimistic, according to Gallup.

Just 39 percent of everyone surveyed in June said the economy was improving; 56 percent described it as getting worse. The consumer confidence reading for existing conditions was negative 14 despite progress in hiring, auto sales and home buying. Partisan affiliation is a factor. □

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# AP Exclusive: Study blames lost calves on panthers

**JASON DEAREN**

**Associated Press**

**IMMOKALEE, Florida (AP)** —

Since Florida's frontier days when cattlemen drove their herds through the state's vast fields and forests, ranchers and native panthers have been natural enemies.

The ranchers seek to nurture and protect their calves, while the panthers see them as prey.

Human development won the battle, driving the large, tawny cats to the brink of extinction before successful efforts to restore them began decades ago.

But with Florida's panther population recovering, some ranchers complain the protected 6-to-7-foot (about 2 meters) long predators are once again killing their calves.

Now, university research supports that claim, at least in one part of southwest Florida.

A University of Florida researcher hired by federal wildlife officials has found that panthers are killing calves in an area where the predatory felines are thriving.

Her study, the first to quantify the kills and losses, was given to The Associated Press exclusively.

The research marks the first step toward the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service considering a program that would pay ranchers for preserving acres of panther habitat, instead of undertaking the impossible task of verifying every kill.

"Ranchers will tell you that they suspected panthers were killing their calves, although no one knows how many they're losing," said Caitlin Jacobs, the univer-



In this Jan. 30, 1997 file photo, An adult male Florida panther growls as he leaves his shipping container to enter his new home at Big Cypress National Preserve, Fla.

**Associated Press**

sity researcher who staked out a ranch for the better part of two years. "It's hard to find the calves — when panthers kill they drag the prey into the forest and cover it with brush to hide them from scavengers."

It's estimated that at one time, more than 1,300 panthers roamed Florida before their numbers dwindled — at one point in the 1800s, the state's government offered \$5 for panther scalps. There were as few as 20 panthers in the 1990s, but the population has rebounded thanks to conservation efforts.

The problem began to draw the attention of state and federal wildlife officials about four years ago, after third-generation Florida

rancher Liesa Priddy, owner of the 9,300-acre (3.6 hectares) JB Ranch, became suspicious when a new calf vanished.

Ranchers had been telling federal and state wildlife officials about the problem for years, but lacked scientific evidence. Calves are also commonly killed by

coyotes, vultures and even bears.

In the past, ranchers simply would have shot the panthers, but because the state's 100 to 180 panthers are legally protected under the Endangered Species Act, they have few options.

Priddy had a local outdoor-

smen stake out her pasture with night-vision goggles. That night, a panther took a calf and they found the carcass, Priddy said.

She called out a state biologist, who confirmed it was a panther kill and began the research to find out how pervasive the issue had become.

The researchers targeted two ranches and tagged 400 calves on each. They found that JB Ranch, which has nearby forests where panthers can hide, lost 10 calves, or about 5 percent. A beef cow can go for around \$1,000. A lost heifer can cost future profits from breeding more cows.

The other ranch lost only one calf to panthers over that time.

The study's results are set to be released later this year. The information can help wildlife managers move forward on ideas for compensating ranchers.

Right now, small ranchers with less than 100 head of cattle can apply for compensation from two nonprofits: Defenders of Wildlife and Conservancy of Southwest Florida.

But those programs aren't used by bigger ranches, Godsea said, and don't have the resources to address the larger problem.

## Corning donates \$1.8M in parts for space telescope

**MICHAEL HILL**

**Associated Press**

**ALBANY, New York (AP)** —

Corning Inc. has donated \$1.8 million in high-tech components for a telescope a private group wants to launch into space. The not-for-profit BoldlyGo Institute wants to put its ASTRO-1 telescope in orbit by the mid-2020s. Obtaining the components for a roughly 6-foot (1.8-meter) telescope primary mirror will significantly contribute to the ambitious goal, the group said Tuesday in announcing the donation.

The institute is beginning to raise cash and material for

the project, which its CEO, Jon Morse, hopes will cost "well under" \$1 billion.

"This is a huge step forward that allows us to hit the ground running as we raise additional resources," said Morse, a former director of astrophysics at NASA Headquarters.

The institute was formed last fall to increase the number and variety of space science mission through private funding. The ASTRO-1 space telescope would be used to study planets orbiting nearby stars, as well as the Milky Way and other galaxies. Morse said

the telescope would have 10 times the field of view of the Hubble Space Telescope and could be used for exploration years from now when Hubble stops working well.

The group, whose board includes members with links to NASA, also wants to fund an unmanned trip to Mars. "We all recognize, having worked in NASA, that there are not enough resources to pursue all the great ideas that are out there, so we're hoping to help build out the portfolio through private funding," Morse said.



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## Brian Dennehy, Mia Farrow to star on Broadway



This April 24, 2012 file photo shows actress Mia Farrow and son Isaiah Farrow attend the TIME 100 gala, celebrating the 100 most influential people in the world, at the Frederick P. Rose Hall in New York.

**MARK KENNEDY**  
AP Drama Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A.R. Gurney's romantic play "Love Letters" is about to hit Broadway again with some big movie stars. The two-person work, composed of letters exchanged over a lifetime between friends who grew up together, will star Brian Dennehy and Mia Farrow from Sept. 13 to Oct. 10, then Carol Burnett and Dennehy from Oct. 11 to Nov. 7, then

Alan Alda and Candice Bergen from Nov. 8 to Dec. 5, then Stacy Keach and Diana Rigg from Dec. 6 to Jan. 9, and finally Anjelica Huston and Martin Sheen from Jan. 10 to Feb. 1. The show will run at the Nederlander Theatre under Gregory Mosher's direction. The play was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. It debuted on Broadway starring Colleen Dewhurst and Jason Robards in 1989. □

Associated Press

## Alicia Keys pregnant with 2nd child

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Alicia Keys is getting ready for another big release: her second child.

A representative for the Grammy-winning performer confirmed Thursday that the singer is pregnant. Keys posted a photo with her baby bump on Instagram early Thursday, which also marked her fourth wedding anniversary to producer-rapper Swizz Beatz, who also posed in the picture.

Keys wrote that their anniversary was sweeter because they've "been blessed with another angel on the way." She didn't of-



This undated image released by Alicia Keys shows the musician-actress posing with Swizz Beatz.

Associated Press

fer any more details about the pregnancy. She gave birth to her son, Egypt, in 2010. □

## Jude Law: With maturity comes complication

LOUISE DIXON

Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Jude Law feels his work options are widening as he gets older, and he revels in the complications.

The 41-year-old British actor — best known for his roles in "The Talented Mr. Ripley," "Cold Mountain" and more recently "Sherlock Holmes" — says there is now "less emphasis on playing romantic leads."

"You get over a certain age, and you're more complicated anyway," he said in an interview. "So, I guess characters written for that age are more complicated, you know." Law said he likes to take risks by picking roles that terrify him, such as his much-acclaimed stint in "Henry V" in London's West End last year.

"There's this moment when you haven't quite learnt your lines, the play doesn't feel like it's coming together or at least you don't feel that you've fully understood the role or indeed the piece yet and everyone's looking around for a way out, an excuse," he said, recalling the rehearsal period.

"And yet you know that you have a set day ahead



In this Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013 file photo, Actor Jude Law pauses, during the press conference for the film Side Effects at the 63rd edition of the Berlinale, International Film Festival in Berlin.

Associated Press

of you when you are going to open to the press — and indeed to the public — and it's nothing short of terrifying."

"It's usually at that moment you question yourself, your job, why you're doing this," he added, "but it's also an opportunity to sort of face failure and fear."

Among Law's current roles is playing a submarine captain in Kevin Macdonald's "Black Sea," due for release at the end of the year. Filmed on a 1970s submarine, Law says filming "was

an amazing experience being that many people in such a small space, for that long. It brought on incredible energy and incredible drama."

And next up, Law is to replace Michael Fassbender as Thomas Wolfe in Michael Grandage's directorial debut, "Genius."

"At the moment I'm up to my elbows reading up and around the wonderful Thomas Wolfe and his relationship with Max Perkins, his editor, who is played by Colin Firth," Law said. □

## Usher 'overwhelmed' by supporters of foundation

**R&B singer Usher attends the 15th anniversary celebration of his New Look Foundation, Thursday, July 31, 2014, in Atlanta.**

Associated Press



**JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.**  
Associated Press

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Rhythm and Blues singer Usher said he was overwhelmed with

gratitude by the number of supporters at his New Look Foundation's 15th anniversary luncheon.

Legendary boxer Sugar

Ray Leonard, director Kenny Leon and producer Jermaine Dupri were among more than 450 attendees at foundation's President's Circle Awards luncheon Thursday in Atlanta.

An auction was held during the ceremony, raising more than \$98,000 for the youth development organization founded by the Grammy-winning singer.

Rapper Ludacris hosted the event. He joked about being a better dancer than Usher and spoke about his admiration of the singer's charitable endeavors. □



# What problem? Ariana Grande is new princess of pop

**MESFIN FEKADU**

**AP Music Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Ariana Grande is the new princess of pop, topping the charts with her addictive single "Problem," impressing critics with her thick, gliding vocal range and maintaining an image that her young Nickelodeon fans can vibe with, signature ponytail and all.

The 21-year-old is having the best time of her life. But it's also the worst.

Her grandfather, with whom she had a very close relationship, died last week. "I personally felt like I've been not as appreciative as I could be of the music success I wanted all my life because I've been distracted by my grandfather and his health and this being such a dark time," she said in an interview.

Grande said she hasn't had much time to "sit back and realize and just enjoy" her musical breakthrough, and what's coming next may not allow any time for it.

Her sophomore album, "My Everything," arrives Aug. 25 at midnight, moments after the MTV Video Music Awards, where Grande is nominated for three moonmen. She released a new single, "Bang Bang," this



In this June 15, 2014 file photo, Ariana Grande performs at the 2014 Much Music Video Awards in Toronto.

week with Nicki Minaj and Jessie J, which quickly topped the iTunes charts. The Iggy Azalea-assisted "Problem," which has sold 2.6 million tracks so far, is spending its 13th consecutive week in the Top 10 and another single, "Break Free," is a rising radio hit.

"What's so attractive about Ariana is, No. 1 she's an extraordinary talent, No. 2 she's an exceptional ac-

tress, and the third part of it — which makes her a triple threat — is she has this wildly successful fan base on the Internet unlike anything we've seen in some time," said Monte Lipman, the CEO and chairman of Republic Records who signed Grande when she was 17. MTV reprised its "Total Request Live" for a day for Grande. Amy Doyle, the network's executive vice

president of music and talent programming strategy, said MTV sat down with Grande's team to plan ways to help launch her new album.

"If 'TRL' was around today, Ariana would be a fixture in the same way Britney (Spears) was when Britney was of the moment," said Doyle, who said the network had been thinking of ways to bring back "TRL,"

but hadn't come up with the right idea until they thought of Grande. "She was absolutely the perfect artist to do that because her fans are active and she's very social."

The triumph in music comes a year after Grande released her debut, "Yours Truly," which featured the multiplatinum Top 10 hit "The Way" and drew comparisons to Mariah Carey. At about the same time, Nickelodeon premiered "Sam & Cat," which at times was the network's most popular series. The network announced this month the show wouldn't have a second season.

Grande said she's learning to find herself outside of her TV character.

"I have a lot of mixed emotions about it because it's easier putting yourself out there as somebody else than it is to put your actual self out there," she said. "It took me a long time to embrace that and to become comfortable enough in my own skin and let down that sort of Cat Valentine shield."

Grande's fans from the show have carried over to her music career, a transition other entertainers have struggled with.

**Associated Press**

# 'Godfather of Makeup' Dick Smith dead at 92

**HILLEL ITALIE**

**AP National Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Dick Smith, the Oscar-winning "Godfather of Makeup" who amused, fascinated and terrified moviegoers by devising unforgettable transformations for Marlon Brando in "The Godfather" and Linda Blair in "The Exorcist" among many others, has died. He was 92.

Smith, the first makeup artist to win an Academy Award for lifetime achievement, died Wednesday in California of natural causes. His death was confirmed to The Associated Press by the president of the Make-up

Artists and Hairstylists Guild, Sue Cabral-Ebert, who declined to give further details. "Our lives have been blessed by our father's steadfast love and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your kind words in remembrance of him," Smith's sons, David and Douglas Smith, said in a statement.

Widely regarded as the master in his field, Smith helped pioneer such now-standard materials as liquid foam latex and made special effects more realistic and spectacular.

With Smith on hand, the middle-aged Brando was

transformed into the jowly patriarch Vito Corleone, the teenage Blair into a scarred and wild-eyed demon, and William Hurt into a mass of protoplasm for "Altered States."

Smith and Paul LeBlanc shared an Oscar in 1985 for their work on "Amadeus," for which Smith spent hours each day turning 44-year-old F. Murray Abraham into an elderly man as Mozart's rival Antonio Salieri.

Smith also fashioned a mohawk out of a plastic cap and chopped up hair for Robert De Niro in "Taxi Driver" and created breasts out of foam rubber for Kather-



In this publicity image released by Warner Bros. Entertainment, Linda Blair portrays a possessed Regan MacNeil in a scene from, "The Exorcist." Associated Press

ine Ross in "The Stepford Wives." Through foam latex and a newly flexible kind of false eyelashes, Smith managed to capture old age in "Little Big Man," which starred Dustin Hoffman, in his mid-30s at the time, as a centenarian.

Before breaking through in Hollywood, he was among

the first great makeup artists for television. Smith headed NBC's makeup division from 1945 to 1959, using soldered wire to create a panther mask for a then-unknown Eva Marie Saint and slushed-in latex to enhance the nose of Jose Ferrer for "Cyrano de Bergerac."



## 'Maybe in America'



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

© 2014 New York Times

**ANTANANARIVO, Madagascar** - I've been arguing that the big divide in the world these days is between the world of order and a growing world of disorder. If you're keeping score at home, the world of disorder just added another country: Libya. America quietly folded up its embassy in Libya last week and left, leaving behind a tribal/militia war of all against all. Not good.

There will be more of this. It's not easy being a country anymore. There is no more Cold War to prop up, arm and finance frail states. More important, the combined pressures of the market (globalization and the speed with which investment can flow into countries doing the right things and out of those doing bad things), Moore's Law (the steady rise in computing power that makes every good job today require more education) and Mother Nature (climate change, biodiversity loss, erosion and population growth) have all passed certain tipping points. Together, the market, Mother Nature and Moore's Law are stressing out developed countries and helping to blow up weak ones. For me, the movie line that perfectly captures this moment was uttered by the leader of the Somali pirates who hijacked a cargo ship in "Captain Phillips," starring Tom Hanks. The pirate nicknames the Boston-bred Phillips "Irish." In a critical scene, Hanks tries to reason with the Somali hijacker, saying to him: "There's got to be something other than being a fisherman or kidnapping people."

To which the hijacker replies, "Maybe in America, Irish. Maybe in America."

It has been instructive to see all these pressures up close here in Madagascar, one of the poorest countries in the world. The globalization of illicit trade has left Madagascar exposed to Chinese merchants working with corrupt officials here to illegally import everything from valuable rosewood timber to rare tortoises. Some global textile manufacturers set up factories then quit when the politics turned too unstable. Mandatory education here is only through age 15, and it's in the local Malagasy language. That makes it hard to compete in a world where some developed countries are teaching computer coding in first grade.

And then there's Mother Nature: the population of Madagascar is exploding, and the forests and soils are eroding. The soil for agriculture here is iron rich, nutrient poor and often very soft. Because 90 percent of Madagascar's forests have been chopped

down for slash-and-burn agriculture, timber, firewood and charcoal over the past century, most hillsides have no trees to hold the soil when it rains. Flying along the northwest coast, you can't miss the scale of the problem. You see a giant red plume of eroded soil bleeding into the Betsiboka River, bleeding into Mahajanga Bay, bleeding into the Indian Ocean. The mess is so big that astronauts take pictures of it from space. "The more you erode, the more people you have with less soil under their feet to grow things," said Russ Mittermeier, the president of Conservation International, who's been working in Madagascar to help preserve its environment since 1984 and has been showing me around. "When I first came here in 1984, the population was 9 or 10 million. It is now approaching 23 million." When countries have rapidly growing populations and rapidly diminishing natural capital, the leadership required to match the scale of the problems they face is nothing less than herculean. After 50 years of mostly bad leadership, Madagascar has democratically elected a new, post-coup president, Hery Rajaonarimampianina. He seems to want to do the right things. We can only hope he has some Hercules in him.

Nothing he does will be more important than preserving what is left of Madagascar's pristine beaches, forests and plant and animal species (particularly its lemurs), among the most rare and diverse in the world. Parks and reserves have been set aside by the government - and even with the destruction there's still a ton to see - but they will only be sustainable if they are supported by ecotourist lodges and guides who are drawn from local communities and incentivized to protect their natural capital. But that takes a government able to expand protected areas, build proper roads (rural roads here have more potholes than pavement), crack down on illegal logging and provide credit to rural communities.

Serge Rajaobelina is the founder of Fanamby, a local nonprofit that supports villagers starting ecotourist sites, like Camp Amoureux, situated in western Madagascar amid spectacular giant baobab trees. We stayed there. Of the 25 locals working there, 22 were women.

"Involving communities in ecotourism is the key," Rajaobelina said. "The people who are always in the field are the communities, and they are the best conservationists and guides." But, he added, they need help with capacity building: training, access to credit and infrastructure. There are already too many people walking around the world saying, "Maybe in America, but not here." We don't need more. Keeping Madagascar out of the world of disorder has to start by preserving its ecosystems, which are vital for sustaining its people and attracting tourism. But that requires good leadership, and good leaders today - anywhere - are the rarest species of all. □



## Teachers Shouldn't Learn as They Go



JOE NOCERA

© 2014 New York Times

I'm starting to wonder if we've entered some kind of golden age of books about education. First came Paul Tough's book, "How Children Succeed," about the importance of developing noncognitive skills in students. It was published in September 2012. Then came "The Smartest Kids in the World," by Amanda Ripley, which tackled the question of what other countries were getting right in the classroom that America was getting wrong. Her book came out just about a year ago.

And now comes Elizabeth Green's "Building a Better Teacher: How Teaching Works (and How to Teach It to Everyone)," which will be published next week, and which was excerpted in The New York Times Magazine over the weekend. The first two books made the New York Times best-seller list. My guess is that Green's book will, too. It certainly ought to.

Over the past few decades - with the rise of charter school movement and No Child Left Behind - reformers and teachers' unions have been fighting over how to improve student performance in the classroom. The reformers' solution, notes Green, is account-

ability. The unions' solution is autonomy. "Where accountability proponents call for extensive student testing and frequent on-the-job evaluations, autonomy supporters say that teachers are professionals and should be treated accordingly," Green writes. In both schemes, the teachers are basically left alone in the classroom to figure it out on their own. In America, that's how it's always been done. An inexperienced teacher stands in front of a class on the first day on the job and stumbles his or her way to eventual success. Even in the best-case scenario, students are being shortchanged by rookie teachers who are learning on the job. In the worst-case scenario, a mediocre (or worse) teacher never figures out what's required to bring learning alive.

Green's book is about a more recent effort, spearheaded by a small handful of teaching revolutionaries, to improve the teaching of teaching. The common belief, held even by many people in the profession, that the best teachers are "natural-born" is wrong, she writes. The common characteristic of her main characters is that they have broken down teaching into certain key skills, which can be taught.

"You don't need to be a genius," Green told me recently. "You have to know how to manage a discussion. You have to know which problems are the ones most likely to get the lessons across. You have to understand how students make mistakes - how they think - so you can respond to that." Are these skills easier for some people than others? Of course they are. But they can be taught, even to people who don't instinctively know how to do these things.

One of Green's central characters is a woman named Deborah Loewenberg Ball, who began her career as an elementary school teacher and is now the dean of the University of Michigan's

School of Education. "Watching Deborah teach is like listening to chamber music," Green quotes an admirer. But she didn't start out that way. She struggled as a young teacher, and, as she became a better teacher, she began to codify, in her own mind at first, the practices that made her successful. And she asked herself, "Why hadn't she learned any of this before?"

Green has a chapter about why schools of education value things other than the actual teaching of teachers. But the University of Michigan under Ball is one place that is trying to reverse that trend, not just at Michigan but across the country. Ball is pushing the idea that teachers should be prepared to teach - that they should have the tools and the skills - when they walk into that classroom on the first day on the job. That is rarely the case right now.

"We need to shift teaching to be like other fields where you have to demonstrate proficiency before you get a license," Ball told me not long ago. "People who cut hair and fly airplanes get training that teachers don't get." One thing that Ball and Green both stress is the importance of scale. I've also come to see the ability to scale successful programs as the single biggest issue facing public education. It is great that there are charter schools that give a small percentage of public schoolchildren a chance for a good education - and a good life. And it's all well and good that Michigan graduates maybe 100 or so teachers a year who genuinely know how to teach by the time they get out of school.

But these small-scale successes won't ultimately matter much unless they are embraced by the country at large. You can't teach every kid in a charter school. And schools of education need to change their priorities. Learning on the job just shouldn't cut it anymore. □



# Sorrow Grips the New York City Hoops Community

**MICHAEL POWELL**

© 2014 New York Times

**NEW YORK** - Hoops love is a New York City affliction, and to play it above the rim, to shoot and run with the best, you couldn't tell James Williams there was much better. Williams, known to everyone as Stixx, was 6-foot-8, blessed with a lean frame and a sweet lefty stroke, and he scored easily enough on more than one NBA star in the

players in New York, friend to NBA stars like Taj Gibson of the Chicago Bulls and to troubled teenagers in the juvenile detention center where he worked as a counselor, played in the Nike Pro City basketball league at Baruch College last week.

He was taking a rest on the bench when he gave a quick shake of the head, as if to shake off a fly, and slumped. Men rushed for-

never do. He was memorialized to the thump of hip-hop and an MC who barely stopped talking and to the sound of an ovation for him. A collection was taken up for his funeral, which is Sunday.

There are so many who play this game for multiple millions of dollars, who by halftime of their first game of the season make more than Stixx did in a year of playing hoops.

College, population 2,842, give or take a few Oklahomans. He played there before transferring to the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Long and skinny - 190 pounds at that time - Stixx got off to a good start with the UMKC Kangaroos; his second game he scored 19 points and hauled in seven rebounds. He averaged 8.7 and 3.7 rebounds in limited minutes that season.

Then he returned to Brook-

a smooth, good-looking fellow; "The NBA Player" was the dreadlocked point guard Smush Parker; "Corrections Officer" was a husky corrections officer; "Tommy Guns" was a great shooter; and "Scoring Machine" was Steve Burt Jr., an Iona College scoring sensation who played for St. Petersburg in Russia last season and a is star on Ukraine's national team. Burt scored from more or less everywhere. Parker passed like a no-look dream. "Corrections Officer" rebounded like a fiend.

It's a Peter Pan life; forever young until you're not. Stixx sensed that, and he returned to college to get his bachelor's degree and took a job as a counselor at a juvenile detention center in the Bronx. His salary supported Ranate as she studied for her bachelor's at Baruch College and tended to their daughters.

"It was his passion to work with at-risk kids," Ranate said. "I think he saw a little bit of himself in them."

Not that he believed he was getting old.

"Oh no, he never let age bother him; he considered himself still young," Ranate said, chuckling. "He knew how to go slow and then turn it on."

Stixx and Ranate met at a Williamsburg club. Afterward they talked for hours on the telephone. A year ago they got married at City Hall. They celebrated at a social club in Brownsville. He learned to cook a mean chicken curry, making a marriage of the cuisine of Ranate's Trinidadian father and Jamaican mother.

Word of Stixx's death brought tears to a world, street hoops, that is accustomed to young men passing on too early.

Gibson, accustomed to exchanging kidding tweets with Stixx and to dueling his friend on the court, sent a somber tweet: "Rest in peace to my good friend @stixxwilliams NYC street ball won't be the same without you. Brooklyn won't be the same without you." □



**A undated handout photo of New York City streetball player James "Stixx" Williams. Williams' sudden death of a heart attack at age 34 during a Nike Pro City Basketball League game stunned his friends, family and fellow players.**

(Joe and Randy Cruz/Hoops in the Sun via The New York Times)

city's summer leagues. He would juke and dip, spin and toss the ball down. Or he could slap a lazy, foolish idea of a layup into the seats and listen to the crowd whoop. "It was family and basketball: I don't think he cared for anything else," said his wife, Ranate Williams, a sweet-faced, soft-voiced lady with long lashes. "He said he didn't care that he didn't make the pros, but I think if he had, that would have been his all-time dream."

Her use of the past tense was intentional.

Stixx, mentor to dozens of young black basketball

ward to try to revive him. An ambulance rushed him to Bellevue Hospital. Ranate got the call at their apartment in Canarsie - Stixx was taken to the hospital - and she high-tailed it. "They took me into an office at the hospital and told me Stixx was gone," she says softly.

"I couldn't hear anything after that." The young man with the easy smile and two little daughters was dead of a heart attack at 34.

Stixx got the hoops equivalent of a jazzman's funeral Tuesday at Pro City. The basketball games never stopped, because they

Whatever.

"He was a smart player, and he had a great heart," said Gerard Fisher, a former player known as Big Fish. "He was a sweet guy."

Nobody's life is a fairy tale. To talk to Williams' friends and family was to hear intimations of a young man's struggle, of a high school career pockmarked by spotty attendance and too much time hanging out and too little studying.

By every account, his godfather, Warren Bagby, stepped in and put a hand, metaphorical and real, on Stixx's shoulder.

Stixx graduated and flew out to East Oklahoma State

lyn.

Summer leagues are home to basketball vagabonds, whose wanderings take them to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and Manitoba, Canada; Uruguay and Ukraine. Friends say Stixx played in China briefly, earning him his other nickname, Cross Seas Money.

"That's Al on the jumper. Al the Housewife's Pal."

To attend a summer league game is to climb a vaudeville bleacher. The MC this night, a butter-voiced fellow who sounded like a ringer for actor Samuel L. Jackson, never came up dry on a nickname. "Al the Housewife's Pal" was